Daily Report

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Lithuanian President, Premier Address Baltic Assembly

LD1211163494 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2000 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lithuanian president welcomed the discussion at the Baltic Assembly which started in Vilnius on Friday [11 November]. He urged Estonian and Latvian politicians to compete honorably in order to create a favourable image of the three states abroad.

According to the Baltic News Service the president's speech at the session indicated that Lithuanian politicians have most reproaches to Estonians in this respect.

Mr. Brazauskas was critical of reports in the press of the Baltic states and other countries which aimed to prove that the Baltic states do not only differ but are even opposite in their foreign policy priorities, that press commentaries also allege that there's a great gap between the Baltic countries in economic and social matters. Mr. Brazauskas said that, as he put it, a complex view of the economic and social developments of the three countries would lead to a conclusion that none of the three states is far ahead of the others.

The Lithuanian president reiterated that the stepping up of co-operation with Latvia and Estonia is one of the most important priorities of Lithuania's foreign policy.

Meanwhile Lithuanian prime minister said at the session of the Baltic assembly that the international community and especially the European Union give very positive evaluations of the Baltic states' joint efforts to integrate (?among) themselves.

In his speech Mr. Slezevicius echoed the reproaches voiced by the Lithuanian president for what he called unhonorable rivalry between the Baltic states. The prime minister also stressed that the Baltic countries retained their joint strategic goals while integrating into Europe.

Assembly Passes 17 Documents, Elects Leaders

LD1311161994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1500 GMT 13 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladas Burbulis]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius November 13 TASS—The Baltic Assembly on Sunday wound up its fifth session with passing 17 documents on various issues and electing its new leadership. The Assembly groups lawmakers from the three Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

The documents passed at the forum include a resolution on military cooperation, saying, in particular, that "taking into consideration the geopolitical situation in our region, as well as the latest statements and obligations of the governments of the Baltic states, the Baltic assembly recommends that the Baltic council of ministers get down to drafting a treaty between Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia on defence issues, and speed up its signing".

In another document, the Baltic assembly suggested "regarding the demilitarization of the region as a necessary element of the current security process in central Europe and Europe on the whole", since the region's future "is a common problem for entire Europe, which can be solved by joint actions only". With this in view, "the Baltic Assembly calls upon the Baltic council of ministers to convene an international round-table conference on the Kaliningrad region's demilitarization and further development", the document went on to say.

Another resolution, "on cooperation of the Baltic states in regulating the processes of migration and repatriation", stressed that "the uncontrolled and artificial migration from the former Soviet Union during the years of occupation caused an undesirable, and sometimes critical ethnic situation in the Baltic states, which threatens their national identity and integrity". For this reason, the Baltic assembly encouraged the three governments for "coordinated legal rules and actions".

Latvian lawmaker Maris Budovskis was elected chairman of the Baltic assembly presidium for a term of two years. Former chairman Egidijus Bickauskas, deputy speaker of the Lithuanian Sejm (parliament), and Ulo Nugis, chairman of the Estonian state assembly, became Budovskis's deputies.

The next session of the Baltic Assembly is scheduled to be held in Riga in May 1995.

Speaking at a joint news conference on Sunday, Baltic Assembly leaders gave a very high assessment to the results of the Vilnius session.

Baltic Concern over Integration into NATO Aired

LD1311225994 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1700 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] At a news conference held after the Baltic Session concluded, the journalists were mostly interested in why the resolution on NATO membership had not been adopted.

Concern is voiced in the draft resolution presented by Latvian Member of Parliament Juris Sinka that the request concerning the integration of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia into NATO structures seems to be needlessly postponed. Once again an appeal is made to the North Atlantic Assembly and the NATO leadership asking to resolve this issue as soon as possible.

Egidijus Bickauskas, deputy chairman of the Baltic Assembly and deputy chairman of the Lithuanian Seimas, said that this document was submitted at the last moment and that it was impossible to adopt it so

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quickly. Egidijus Bickauskas also noted that a similar document had already been adopted by the Baltic Assembly.

Ulo Nugi, chairman of the Estonian parliament, said that first of all the Baltic states should work according to the NATO program of Partnership for Peace. According to the Estonian representative, if the Baltic states manage to carry out this task then they would be able to become members of NATO in the second round after the Visegrad states, therefore, according to Ulo Nugi this new urging is absolutely unnecessary.

Maris Budovskis, Latvian MP and chairman of the Baltic Assembly, pointed out that the Baltic states have already presented their arguments and at the moment the question of their NATO membership should not be addressed to the representatives of the Baltic countries but to the leadership of NATO.

Answering the question of whether the fact that Estonia has unsolved territorial claims with Russia would not impede military cooperation between the Baltic states, Ulo Nugi, head of the Estonian parliament, said that this was not the sort of problem which would be an obstacle for cooperation in the security field. According to Ulo Nugi this was specifically a problem of Estonia and Russia which according to him would be soon resolved.

Adding on this, Egidijus Bickauskas noted that there is a difference between a de facto and a de jure problem. In his opinion Estonian-Russian territorial problems should not impede the security cooperation between the Baltic states which support Estonia on this issue.

Speaking about the appeal addressed to the Assembly by Chechnya President Dzhokhar Dudayev, Egidijus Bickauskas stressed that the Baltic Assembly is faced with a controversy. The letter asks the assembly to recognize Chechnya de jure and at the same time to send observers and ask the Russian government to do the same.

Therefore, it was decided not to adopt any decision; however, the reading of an appeal made by a group of members of the Baltic Assembly was allowed.

Maris Budovskis pointed out that the Baltic Assembly remains faithful to its principles on this issue—to respect the right of self-determination of nations and to renounce the use of force in resolving conflicts.

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ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 12 Nov

LD1211072494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0622 GMT 12 Nov 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 12 TASS—Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Frontier Guard troops Andrey Nikolayev believes that the federal Frontier Guard Service should be transformed into a ministry of a semi-civilian type. He put forward this idea in an interview with ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, published today.

Nikolayev categorically rejected the idea, which has been in circulation recently, about a possibility of including Frontier Guard troops into the armed forces. "This would evoke a negative response of the world community. There is not a single large country in the world in which frontier guard troops would be part of the Army. Aside from it, it would lead to substantial material losses. And, which is most important, this runs counter to a new conceptual framework of protecting the frontier, using mostly task forces and facilities, along with actively drawing into this process the local population and structures outside the armed forces," Nikolaev stressed.

IZVESTIYA carries an interview with acting Prosecutor-General of the Russian Federation Aleksey Ilyushenko. He believes that "there is a possibility that the murder of Dmitriy Kholodov will be uncovered." Ilyushenko said that many versions were at work. "We shall work on all the versions until we finally uncover the crime. At present we have no evidence that would make us suspect the defence minister or other officials from the defence ministry," he stressed.

IZVESTIYA publishes the second part of an article by Aleksandr Livshits, which is entitled "Where are we going?" In this article the aide of President Yeltsin tries to show what kind of an economy Russia may have in about five years and what should be done for it. He writes: "I do not think in the forthcoming several years we shall have a government, capable of pursuing a policy which would combine in an optimal way the interests of various industrial and financial groups." In his opinion, it will be the main reason why the firm establishment of the Russian economy will be called into question.

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA carries an article by Yuri Skokov, chairman of the Russian Federation of public associations of commodity producers. In his opinion, Russia is now "on the second stage of the second Russian revolution." The beginning of the revolution was set by Gorbachev, who proclaimed the principles of "perestroika, glasnost, acceleration." In his opinion, in mid-1991 Russia passed over to the second stage of the revolution. "Actually, the formation of a new ideology began at that time. Departization and deideologization began to be associated in people's minds with democratisation. Unfortunately, this 'democratisation' began recently to acquire the characteristic features of a totalitarian regime, unitarism and the struggle against dissent."

NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA carries an interview, given by Chairman of the Federation Council Vladimir Shumeyko to the Postfactum News Agency, which deals with the problem of crime in Russia. According to Shumeyko, "the first thing needed for the effective struggle against crime and corruption is a penal code, which would correspond to a state of society, in which we are living. The second law needed for the anti-corruption struggle is the law on public service."

TRUD publishes an interview with Vyacheslav Salganov, head of the main department for the struggle against economic crimes under the Russian Interior Ministry, who also points to the need for adopting the laws that will help stop the crime wave in the country. He says that "crime has been spread to about all the branches of the national economy and the budget sphere. It accompanies all the directions of the economic reform." According to Salganov, during the past nine months the growth of crime in the economic sphere was 15.3 per cent as against the 1993 level. The criminal wave can be stopped only with the help of law, he stresses.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA frontpages an article dealing with Russia's policy in the Middle East. An article by Mikhail Karpov, entitled "Moscow needs durable peace, while Washington needs a nice small war to win," deals with the root causes of the activities of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, aimed at achieving the conciliation of Iraq and Kuwait. The real reason for those activities is connected with money, the newspaper believes. The Russian opposition is interested in the lifting of sanctions against Iraq for only domestic political reasons, while the team to which the foreign minister belongs wants Russia to get its money back.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries a "sad story" aboug the unique computer network Orlan, created by Russian scientists, which by many parametres surpasses the widely popular TPH network, produced by the IBM firm. It so happened that the Orlan network, designed by specialists from one of the Russian research institutes, was actually not needed by anyone.

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Yeltsin Questions Effects of U.S. Elections on Relations

LD1111180494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1707 GMT 11 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 11 TASS—A group of observers from the NOVOYE VREMYA (NEW TIME) magazine was invited to attend a meeting on Russian foreign policy in Kremlin today because the Russian president is interested in "new independent sources of information," the magazine's editor-in-chief Aleksandr Pumpyanskiy told ITAR-TASS. The meeting was also attended by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and members of the Presidential Council.

In the words of Pumpyanskiy, the president inquired about their forecast of Russian-U.S. relations after the democratic party lost congress elections in the United States. Yeltsin fears possible complications in ratification of nuclear disarmament treaties. In the opinion of meeting participants, the Russian-U.S. relations should be developed without "dramatizing consequences of the congress elections."

The observers also voiced their opinion of the involvement of East European nations in NATO. They think "it is absurd to oppose this process." The meeting participants called for Russian partnership with NATO.

The correspondents called Yeltsin's attention to poorly-considered foreign political decisions made to please the domestic forces, including the ungroundedly-canceled, in their opinion, Polish trip of Viktor Chernomyrdin.

Arbatov Fears 'Return to Tense Relations'

LD1011184494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1734 GMT 10 Nov 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: reports by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov, and others]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The victory of the Republican party in U.S. congressional elections places Russian-American relations in a more complicated context, the Director of the Institute for U.S. and Canada Studies Georgiy Arbatov told Interfax Thursday.

He did not see great difference in the attitudes of Democrats and Republicans to first to the Soviet Union, later to Russia. There have been ups and downs in bilateral relations under administrations of both, he said.

Still Arbatov is alarmed by the prospects of the growth of what he described as bellicose conservatism in Congress that will manifest itself in a stronger, sometimes more aggressive foreign policy and in more active support for the military-industrial complex.

He also believes that a key place in Congress will be occupied by very tough people, in particular such "a dinosaur of conservatism" as Newt Gingrich who is considered the most probable candidate to the post of the speaker of the House of Representatives. As a result, Arbatov predicts, legislators will exert a pressure on the administration that will not benefit the development of constructive Russian-American relations. This is likely to influence the U.S. president the positions of whom are now weak, he said.

The scholar does not think that the change of the majority in Congress can bring back cold war times. "Still I fear that quite soon we might return to tense relations, in any case between the legislative bodies of the two countries," he said.

In Arbatov's opinion unlike the executive branch of power the State Duma is not very favorable to the West. A considerable part of Russian deputies does not support the pro-Western policy of the government while for some of them it is an instrument of struggling against the executive power, the academician said. These deputies will naturally use every unfriendly step by Congress to respond similarly.

Arbatov drew attention to the way the tone of the Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev changed after the elections on December 12, 1993. The minister speaks as toughly as the irreconcilable opposition, he said.

"So far Americans regarded all this with understanding. But while Bill Clinton was ready to look through his fingers, I am not sure that the new leaders in congress will do the same," he said.

Arbatov accounted the failure of the Democrats to the dissatisfaction, if not the mistrust of Americans of the policies of Bill Clinton and his administration.

"I do not fully understand how President Clinton managed to come to such a result in conditions of economic recovery," the scholar said. "Usually this is the most important factor. If the economy had been in a bad state, it would have been easier to explain the present situation. But a role was evidently played by unsuccessful steps on many domestic matters, by his style, which as it turns out is not to the liking of most Americans."

They say the court makes the king and evidently this court does not look very well in the eyes of voters. All these "trifles" resulted in the situation which America has not had for 40 years when a party opposed to the president would have the majority in both houses.

Government Changes Not To Affect Foreign Ties

LD1011154194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1308 GMT 10 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Valeriy Sevryukov and Vladimir Suprun]

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[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 10 Nov—The recent changes in the Russian Government will not affect the nature of foreign economic ties between Russia and other countries, Mikhail Demurin, an official representative of the Russian Federation Ministry of Foreign Affairs said at a briefing today.

He noted, in particular, that the resignation of Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin, who had headed the Russian-South Korean joint commission on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, would not affect the timing of its next session. In the diplomat's view, it could only be postponed for some "internal, strictly technical reasons," as the new deputy prime minister might need some time to get acquainted with things.

At any rate, Demurin stressed, the Russian side will strive to ensure that the government changes do not affect either the nature or the schedule of Moscow's foreign economic relations with its foreign partners.

Zhirinovskiy Tells Butrus-Ghali UN 'Pro-American'

LD1211070894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0640 GMT 12 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[FBIS Translated Text] United Nations, 12 Nov—UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali met the LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] leader, Vladimir Zhirinovskiy here on Friday [11 November] night. After the meeting, Zhirinovskiy told journalists that he outlined to Butrus-Ghali "his own views on the United Nations organization", noting that "it has "exhausted its potential" and should be replaced by regional organizations. He insisted that "the United Nations mostly acts together with the U.S. State Department and promotes clearly pro-American policy in international affairs".

The LDPR leader said he told Butrus-Ghali that he is against the blockade of Iraq, Yugoslavia, and Libya and the use of UN forces in inter-ethnic conflicts. Zhirinovskiy said he is returning to Russia on 12 November, as his visa expires.

Foreign Ministry 'Regrets' U.S. Ship Recall from Bosnia

LD1211132794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1319 GMT 12 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 12 TASS—The Russian Foreign Ministry expressed "regret and concern" on Saturday over a U.S. unilateral decision to recall its two ships used to control the observance of the present embargo regime on arms supplies to Bosnia.

A statement by the Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman, received by ITAR-TASS today, says that the maintenance of this regime "is a generally recognised need for successful efforts to stop the bloodshed in Bosnia and to establish peace and stability on the entire territory of former Yugoslavia".

The statement stresses that concern is provoked not so much by this step as by its direction. "For to some reasons, including domestic issues, the United States is seeking more insistently to translate into life unilateral decisions, overstepping the framework of agreed collective actions.

"We are not inclined to think that this trend will grow stronger," the document states.

"Concerted actions of Europeans and the entire international community are necessary for the earliest normalisation of the situation and a return of all the peoples of former Yugoslavia to the road of civilised European development," underlines the statement.

Diplomat Criticizes U.S. Decision

LD1211162994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1410 GMT 12 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov and Vladimir Solntsev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 12 Nov—The unilateral decision by the United States to stop monitoring the observance of the embargo on arms supplies to Bosnia, "kindles the statements and actions" of the Bosnian Muslims, and in this way could have a negative effect on the development of events. At the same time, the Americans' step does not signify the start of arms supplies, and in the final analysis the monitoring of the embargo's observance could even be tightened, bearing in mind the present stance occupied by the countries of Western Europe. This viewpoint was expressed to an ITAR-TASS correspondent today by a highly placed Russian diplomat involved in drawing up Moscow's policy regarding a peaceful settlement in the former Yugoslavia.

In his words, the measure announced by the White House is a "national decision, which was adopted under the influence of the U.S. Congress." The United States, the diplomat recalled, made a voluntary undertaking to monitor the observance of the embargo and the sanctions, and has now renounced it. Formally, from the viewpoint of international practice and diplomacy, this is "fair play." At the same time, "from the viewpoint of North Atlantic solidarity, the matter concerns a situation whereby the United States has acted unilaterally without consulting the Western Europeans." This has naturally prompted a swift and heated reaction from the countries of Western Europe, which have already expressed a readiness to "close the breach" which has appeared as a result of the U.S. ships' departure.

The Russian expert noted that the embargo has unfortunately been broken more than once, more by air than by sea. Now the "wave which has risen will only double attention" to the problem, and "everyone will double

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their efforts to see that the ban on arms supplies is observed," all the more so because UN Security Council Resolution 713, imposing the embargo, remains in force.

The embargo is being fully maintained, and no one wants to be responsible for unilaterally withdrawing from a resolution for the first time in the UN's history. If there is political will among other members of the international community to prevent the embargo from being eroded, then the breach which has formed as a result of the U.S. decision will be filled, the Russian diplomat stressed.

Further Criticism; Zotov Leaves for FRY

LD1411161294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1423 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow does not dramatize Washington's decision to unilaterally ease the arms embargo on the Bosnian Muslims, a senior Russian diplomat said.

"As far as one can gather, the Americans are not going to totally ignore the embargo regime," the diplomat told Interfax on Monday. "They have decided to recall from the Adriatic two ships which are monitoring boats that might be carrying weapons for any of the warring sides."

"The Americans have been carrying out this function voluntarily," the diplomat continued. "So from that point of view there can be no complaints against them. Of course, Washington's decision may be politically misconstrued by the Bosnian Muslims, but that's a different matter."

There are currently about 40 NATO and Western European Union ships in the Adriatic, which "could easily close the 'breach' the Americans will leave," the diplomat said. "The U.S. decision undoubtedly deals a blow to the idea of North Atlantic solidarity, but it's their problem."

Russian special envoy Aleksandr Zotov on Monday left for Belgrade, according to the Russian Foreign Ministry.

"He will have a series of meetings with the leadership of the Union Republic of Yugoslavia and will discuss how the U.S. "decision to relax the arms embargo could affect the situation in Bosnia," the diplomat interviewed by Interfax said. He said Zotov might attend a Contact Group meeting this week.

Defense Ministry Spokesmen Denies DER SPIEGEL Report

LD1311113994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1017 GMT 13 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunaiskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 13 TASS—"Not a single tank, a missile, or other unit of armaments, either operational or as scrap metal, was or is supplied to the Serbian armed forces from Russian military arsenals," Major General Vladimir Kozarev, head of the Russian Defence Ministry's directorate for information and the press told ITAR-TASS in an interview on Sunday.

Kosarev categorically denied data contained in a an article, which is being prepared for publication by the West German DER SPIEGEL magazine on Monday, that, despite the UN embargo, the Serbian army receives up-to-date armanents from Russian military arsenals.

General Kosarev pointed out that Russia strictly abides by the sanctions on the supply of arms to armed forces in the former Yugoslavia. "This is not the first unfounded accusation that Russia allegedly supplied arms from the former Western Groups of Troops (WGT) [WGF] to the warring sides in Serbia. Such allegation were never subsequently confirmed," the general said.

Kosarev said the East German army was equpped with Soviet-made arms which were transferred to the authority of the German Bundeswehr, partially given to NATO or sold to third countries. But the sale or delivery of the hardware and arms is Germany's affair—Russian Armed Forces have no bearing on that, Kosarev emphasised.

DER SPIGEL magazine provides no specific proofs of an alleged delivery of WGT hardware or armaments to the Serbs, and publishes obviously "fancy" figures and nonsensical facts, a high-ranking expert of the Russian defence ministry told ITAR-TASS.

The expert's opinion is that DER SPIGEL assertions (based on "reliable estimates") that 4,000 railway cars with military cargoes were transfered to the Balkans are simply absurd.

It is just impossible to transfer such a huge amount of military cargoes to the conflict zone, considering U.N. forces' control over compliance with the embargo on the supply of arms to the former Yugoslavia, and control by German military agencies over the movements of weapons and hardware of the former Western Group of Troops, the Russian Defence Ministry's expert said.

Rybkin Welcomes Iraqi Recognition of Kuwait

LD1011183494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1811 GMT 10 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Pavel kuznetsov:]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 10 TASS—Chairman of the Russian State Duma, Ivan Rybkin, described Iraq's decision to recognize Kuwait's sovereignty and its borders as a long-awaited step.

In an interview with ITAR-TASS Rybkin said that this decision came in the wake of Russia's efforts both in Iraq and Kuwait. Rybkin pointed out that the recognition of Kuwaiti borders is another step towards possible lifting

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of sanctions from Iraq, since the absolute majority of demands envisaged by the well-known resolution passed by the U.N. Security Council had already been fulfilled.

The Duma speaker believes that Russia regards lifting economic sanctions from Iraq as a possibility to return money Iraq owes to Russia. "We badly need this money now", Rybkin said.

"The recognition of Kuwaiti sovereignty and its borders is a major victory of the Russian diplomacy," said chairman of the Duma committee for issues of geopolitics, Viktor Ustinov. "Successful efforts made by the Russian President boris Yeltsin and the Russian Foreign Ministry show that the Russian diplomacy occupies a worthy place in the world," Ustinov told ITAR-TASS. He pointed out that this historical step taken by the Iraqi leadership will promote putting on the agenda the problem of lifting international sanctions against Iraq.

Kozyrev Briefs Journalists on Visit to Iraq

LD1111034594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0210 GMT 11 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Yuriy Kozlov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 11 Nov—Russia will work on persuading the UN Security Council at it next sitting to show adequate reaction to Iraq's real major political step in recognizing Kuwait and its international borders. Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev stated this at the end of his two-day visit to Baghdad. On his way back from the Iraq capital he held an improvised news conference for journalists who accompanied him.

The fact that we now have an official and formally ratified acceptance by Iraq of the sovereignty of Kuwait, a neighbor subjected to its aggression four years ago, is the main achievement of our present mission, Kozyrev said. This position of Iraq's leadership is supported by the highest state guarantees—the decisions adopted by the Revolution Command Council and the National Council, the parliament of Iraq. Of course, we are not yet talking about the immediate lifting of the oil embargo and other international sanctions, said the Russian foreign minister. This is a lengthy process. Setting up a certain trial period during which Iraq's compliance with the main UN resolutions may be monitored, can be the first step in this direction. The chill of mistrust that set in the recent years in relations between Iraq and the world community will thaw slowly, but the sun is already shining and its rays give hope that warmer days are to come, Kozyrev said.

Speaking of the position adopted by some foreign powers in regard to the "Iraqi problem," the Russian minister said he opposes the dogmatic approach of the "all or nothing" variety. With such an attitude, one cannot hope for progress in solving complicated international problems, including those of the Middle East, where, as experience shows, step-by-step approachs and clearly set goals will achieve better results. Thus, in case of Iraq, it should be quite possible to lift the blockade step-by-step, following Baghdad's compliance with specific requirements on which various sanctions, introduced over the years, were based. This process will be fully in line with provisions set out in the existing UN Security Council's resolutions.

Under present conditions, Russia is prepared to offer its support to Iraq, now that Baghdad changed its policy and confirmed this by specific constructive steps in complying with the UN resolutions, Kozyrev stressed. Moscow has always been firm and consistent in its insistence on the compliance with these resolutions, unlike the Russian "communist-patriotic" opposition, which demanded unconditional support of Iraq irrespective of its political line.

The minister recalled Russia's economic interests. Obviously, Moscow is interested in Baghdad settling its Russian debts as soon as possible, but Iraq is not our only trade partner in the region, the minister said. Ties with Kuwait and other Arab countries are developing quite dynamically. This also proves Russia's balanced approach to its policy in the Persian Gulf region, Kozyrev said.

Says U.S. Has 'Opinionated' Approach

LD1111190294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1735 GMT 11 Nov 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Kozyrev's view, the US shows "a somewhat opinionated" approach to Iraq. The Americans keep seeing the Iraqi President as "the wicked Saddam" even though PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat proved convincingly enough that politicians are capable of reconsidering their positions and updating their image.

So far the US strategy for Iraq is based on the "everything or nothing" principle. The US insists that Baghdad comply in full measure with the Security Council resolutions and international demands before the international community considers the lifting of the anti-Iraqi sanctions.

Kozyrev suggested that the media refrain from playing up differences in the Russian and US approaches to the Iraqi problem. "Why can't Russia and the U.S. differ on an issue? Or is the US a sacred cow?" he asked.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has said that "over the recent years Iraq has turned into a kind of indicator of Russia's foreign and internal policies."

"This has been the preferred subject of our Communist-patriotic opposition. They have often gone to Baghdad, delegation by delegation, (at the expense of the Iraqi side) and sought Russia's taking Iraq's side and

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approving any actions of the Iraqi leadership. None of the delegations demanded Iraq change its policy," he said.

Kozyrev pointed out that he had always been against mixing with the "international mob which violates the law and whose center was Moscow 5-10 years ago."

"We formulated the issue vice versa and told the Iraqi leadership: whenever you are ready to give up the role of international mob and take a new stand, Russia will be with you. Ceasing to be the center of international mob, we changed, chose another way and want others to choose it," Kozyrev stressed.

According to Kozyrev, Iraq has softened its position recently. "Thanks to Russia's efforts, Baghdad stepped on the way of cooperation with the U.N. commission for Iraqi disarmament headed by Ralph Eckeus. Only after this did we agree to receive Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz. That was an unofficial meeting which was held in St. Petersburg instead of Moscow (a visit to the capital of a great power has more resonance). In six months, after the head of the U.N. commission for Iraqi disarmament, Ralph Eckeus, told the Security Council that Iraq maintained cooperation and things were changing for the better, I met Tariq 'Aziz in New York absolutely openly."

Kozyrev said during that period "we were on the brink of the Security Council's recognizing the Eckeus commission's report and establishing limited (say, for 4-6 months) monitoring. Upon expiration of this term provided Iraq comply with disarmament requirements by the world community, lifting part of the sanctions imposed on Baghdad by a U.N. security Council resolution could arouse."

However, Iraq's military exercises near the border with Kuwait made such prospects more remote.

Commenting on his trip to Baghdad in those times, Kozyrev described as improper the comparisons of his visit with the mission of Mikhail Gorbachev's emissaries who went to Iraq shortly before the Desert Storm operation.

"The community is totally external here. Gorbachev's representatives visited Iraq when it had already attacked Kuwait. This is the same as two people approach a violator, one of them saying: "I will help the victim," while the other one: "Be careful with him, he is already in progress." This is why the Gorbachev's mission was treated so. That was ridiculous," he said.

The Russian minister recalled the fact that besides Iraq he visited Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia the same month. "We pursue a well-balanced policy in that region and, unlike the former Soviet Union, have our interests not only in Iraq," he added.

According to Kozyrev, it was Russia's initiative to amend the U.N. security Council resolution condemning Iraq for the military exercises near the Kuwaiti border. "The way the Americans proposed it, it was a declaration of war. Finally, the resolution's accent was shifted to a political resolution of the issue," he pointed out.

"Many asked: how can you believe Saddam Husayn, will he keep his word? I have only one answer to this. We are no idealists, I am pragmatic rather than romantic-minded. This is another reason to fight and make the Iraqi president keep his word," he added.

In his opinion, politics as an art must be both pragmatic and specific. "Saddam cooperates with Eckeus' commission, he officially recognized the sovereignty and borders of Kuwait. These are not words but deeds. It is by them that it is necessary to judge," Kozyrev emphasized.

Kozyrev said "financial rather than ideological reasons, like those of the Russian opposition, were behind Moscow's intention to ease and eventually lift the sanctions against Iraq. We want our money back (experts estimate Iraq's debt to Russia at $7 billion - IF note), and this is natural," he concluded.

Quoted on Speech to Iraqi Parliament

LD1311230494

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow NTV in Russian at 1800 GMT on 13 November in its "Itogi" program carries a 9-minute video report on the results of Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev's recent visit to Iraq.

"Itogi" announcer Yevgeniy Kiselev begins by introducing the subject of Kozyrev's "180-degree turnabout," over the last two years, on the issue of sanctions against Iraq. Kozyrev is then shown being interviewed by correspondent Aleksandr Zimenko in an office. Zimenko opens with a question about Kozyrev's impressions when he spoke to Iraq's parliament last week. He says: "It is a fact that from childhood Iraqis are taught, it is impressed upon them, that there is no such state as Kuwait, that it is part of Iraq. Did you feel that the parliamentary deputies were shocked in some way?"

Kozyrev replies: "There was grumbling enough in parliament and they even say that some opponents openly raised their hands during voting, in this dictatorship they have in Iraq, as they say. This is in itself interesting." Zimenko goes on to say that Kozyrev was impressed by Saddam Husayn's "political wisdom" in recognizing Kuwait, and adds that this surprised many who took the stand that Saddam Husayn had no choice. Kozyrev declares: "When a person is forced into a corner, he may do something absolutely absurd, even suicidal, or he can display wisdom."

Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the State Duma Committee for International Relations, is then interviewed. He says: "Iraq has used Moscow so that Saddam Husayn need not be seen to be capitulating to the United States. The whole issue of this demonstrative withdrawal of troops and the old image being presented that a breeze in

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the desert must be prevented from turning into desert storm no. two is just Iraq's way of using us to gain the most capital from the fact that it is backing down."

Zimenko asserts that some regard Kozyrev's moves as an attempt to satisfy the pro-Iraq lobby in Russia. Kozyrev states: "I do not see anything wrong with this. What does it mean—the pro-Iraq lobby in Russia? In my view, there are two sets of interests. The first is completely legitimate. Yes, we want our 7 billion [currency not specified] debt returned, which is no trifle. But of course we also have a pro-Iraq lobby, which has nothing to do with my actions, or if it has, definitely not in the way that they would have wanted. These are our opposition, neo-patriotic movements with communist, red-brown leanings, which have for many years been demanding that we support Iraq regardless: Iraq doesn't recognize Kuwait? That does not matter, support Iraq regardless, lift the sanctions unilaterally, have no part in the international sanctions. That is, support the piracy [razboy] and behave like pirates yourselves. So I repeat, we have nothing in common with this political rabble, at home or abroad."

Asked whether he thinks the United States will continue to hinder the lifting of sanctions while Saddam Husayn remains in power, Kozyrev says: "I hope that the United States will manage to overcome emotions and accept one simple thing—that there are no permanently fixed personalities in the international arena, just as in ordinary life, by the way. Take this example: not long ago many people were communists here in our country and now they have become democrats, true democrats, incidentally. Take another example, a classic one, Yasir 'Arafat. A few years ago, in 1989, he was refused a visa to America—an example of America's system of treating people individually—to take part in the UN General Assembly session; he was the international terrorist, the enemy of, I don't know, the world. That was 'Arafat. Now look, after five years, the same 'Arafat, wearing the same headdress, is greeted by everyone today, he is on the best terms with President Clinton and has even become a Nobel Prize laureate."

Kozyrev's Lauding Saddam's 'Wisdom' Deemed Strange

MM1111203194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Elmar Guseynov: "Kozyrev Has Persuaded Saddam To Fulfill Four-Year-Old UN Demand during Two Visits to Baghdad"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "I am delighted at the political wisdom of Saddam Husayn in making the decision to recognize the sovereignty of Kuwait and the integrity of its border, and I hope that you will ratify this decision." The Iraqi parliamentarians responded to this appeal addressed to them by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev by a standing ovation.

The hoped-for sensation did occur. The Iraqi parliament, followed by the country's supreme organ of state power—the Revolution Command Council—recognized the sovereignty of Kuwait and the inviolability of its borders. However, Andrey Kozyrev's address to the Iraqi National Assembly could perhaps in terms of sensation vie with the Iraqi leadership's decision.

Clearly, only Andrey Kozyrev himself knows why he, the foreign minister of a great power, needed to address the Iraqi parliament and seek to persuade that country's legislators to fulfill what constitutes a categorical demand of the world community. Such efforts of persuasion on Kozyrev's part appear particularly strange because the parliament's future decision was in effect decided in advance. In totalitarian Iraq everything is determined solely by the individual will of Saddam Husayn, who had already made the decision to recognize Kuwait by that time. It [only] remained to the deputies to ratify the decision formally.

The high-flown compliments addressed to the Baghdad dictator also appeared strange. Saddam Husayn had for four years obdurately refused to meet the basic UN demands on recognition of the neighboring country's sovereignty. It required the efforts of the whole world community first to eject Saddam's troops from occupied Kuwait by force and then, for a period of four years, to put pressure on official Baghdad by means of economic sanctions in a bid thereby to promote "wisdom" on the part of the Iraqi president. So Kozyrev's delight at this "wisdom" is surprising.

I would remind readers that the unilateral decision to incorporate the territory of Kuwait into Iraq was made by the Iraqi leadership in 1990, immediately after the occupation of the emirate. That act was enshrined in the Iraqi Constitution. Since then, recognition of the sovereignty and the present borders of Kuwait has been one of the basic UN demands and has remained a key condition of the lifting of economic sanctions on the country.

Saddam Husayn delayed carrying out the UN resolutions until the last moment, seeking to retain the image of the great unbending leader whom no one in the world can order about. It is possible therefore that the Iraqi legislators assembled at the session at which they were to recognize Kuwait's sovereignty openly demonstrated that they experienced no delight at the task facing them. Opening the morning session of parliament, to which foreign journalists had been admitted for the first time for many years, Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih stressed that UN Security Council Resolution 833, which demanded the recognition of Kuwait, was "the the most unadulterated violation of the rights of Iraq."

And yet Iraq did, in the shape of the country's supreme organ of power, recognize the sovereignty and the inviolability of the borders of Kuwait on Thursday. And it agreed at the same time the actual line of that border drawn by UN decision since the war in the Persian Gulf. All previous governments of Iraq, from World War I on, had refused to do this.

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Although the recognition of Kuwait does signal an indisputable step forward in the matter of Iraq's fulfillment of UN Security Council resolutions, on the whole the first reaction to this act in the world was restrained. The foreign policy departments of the United States, Britain, France, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait itself stressed through their official spokesmen that the recognition of Kuwait is important but is not the only UN demand on Baghdad. They notably expect resolution of the question of the fate of the thousands of Kuwaitis posted missing and the return of objects of value stolen by Iraqis from the state repositories and museums of Kuwait during the occupation. And there is also the question of payment of compensation to Kuwait by Iraq for the damage caused during the invasion. Only after these problems have been resolved can the process of lifting economic sanctions on Iraq be started.

At the same time the important and positive role which Russia and its Foreign Ministry have played in the question of Baghdad's recognition of Kuwait has been stressed by everyone.

'Appropriate Response' Sought From UN on Iraq

LD1111234694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2240 GMT 11 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[FBIS Translated Text] United Nations, 12 Nov [date as received] During closed consultations at the UN Security Council on Friday, Russia raised the question of the need for "an appropriate response" on the part of the Council to Iraq's recognition of the sovereignty and borders of Kuwait, Sergey Lavrov, permanent representative of the Russian Federation at the United Nations, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent.

He said that between 9 and 10 November Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev visited Baghdad at Boris Yeltsin's request, held talks with Saddam Husayn, Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz and Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id Kazim al-Sahhaf and gave a speech in Iraq's National Assembly.

The Russian representative said that Iraq's full and official recognition of the sovereignty of the state of Kuwait, her territorial integrity, and her international borders "in strict accordance with the formula envisaged by the UN Security Council resolution" had been achieved as a result of these intensive diplomatic efforts. Iraq is handing the relevant documents to the Security Council.

It was pointed out that what is involved in this case is "a fundamental shift in Iraq's position, a decisive step on its part towards meeting the demands of the international community". "Precise recognition of Kuwait's sovereignty and international border in accordance with Security Council Resolution 833 is the cornerstone of the post-crisis settlement. The international community has been seeking this for the last few years, and in this sense Iraq's decision should properly be regarded as an important achievement of the whole international community and the Security Council."

"In our view, such a step should meet an appropriate response from the Security Council—otherwise the entire logic of the post-crisis settlement becomes senseless, and the resolutions of the Security Council itself are devalued. This is the line we intend to conduct at the forthcoming Council session on the Iraq issue," Sergey Lavrov said.

The Security Council plans to hold another review of the issue of the sanctions regime against Iraq on Monday.

Ambassador Previews Chernomyrdin Visit to Kuwait

LD1411142794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1356 GMT 14 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Yuriy Tyssovskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 14 TASS—"The forthcoming visit to Kuwait by Russian Prime minister Viktor Chernomyrdin will mean a large step forward in the development of relations between our two countries", Kuwaiti ambassador to Moscow 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasim Fawzi told ITAR-TASS on Monday. "We are striving sincerely for the widening of relations with Moscow in every area, including economic", he said.

The present state of bilateral contacts in every area, including politics, will be discussed during the negotiations in al-Kuwait, al-Jasim Fawzi said. "For three decades now Kuwait has been maintaining with the USSR and now maintains with Russia cordial and friendly relations along the political and economic lines and also in the area of military-technical cooperation. I am convinced that the visit of the Russian prime minister to Kuwait will yield positive results", he said.

"A number of important documents, including those on mutual guarantees for capital investment, the prevention of double taxation, will be discussed and signed during the negotiations", the ambassador said. Agreements in the areas of culture and information exchange will be concluded. Holding an exhibition of Russian goods in al-Kuwait will be considered. "All this will help solve many problems for Kuwaiti business people and firms that already operate in Russia and for Russian firms in Kuwait", he said.

"Russia is a great power friendly to Kuwait. It has high prestige in the world as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council", said al-Jasim Fawzi. "We have always highly valued the support rendered to our country by Moscow, particularly in the four years that have passed since the Iraqi aggression", he said.

"It is precisely due to a dynamic activity of Russian diplomacy that Iraq finally recongnised Kuwait's sovereignty and the common borders with Kuwait. We view

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this as a positive factor. However, much remains to be done in order to normalise fully the situation in the Gulf. Baghdad should unconditionally comply with all the requirement of the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, release 625 Kuwaitis who are regarded missing and restore to Kuwait the plundered property that belonged to the state and to individual citizens. There must also be compensation for losses of private persons, companies and foreigners, including Russians, who worked in Kuwait", the ambassador said.

Kolesnikov on Cuba, S. Africa, Egypt Tour

LD1211172394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1446 GMT 12 Nov 94

[From INTERFAX "Special Edition"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In November the chief of Russia's General Staff Col.-General Mikhail Kolesnikov made an unprecedented tour: Havana, Pretoria, Cairo. In answer to questions put by Interfax's special correspondent Vitaliy Jibutiy the general outlined the goals pursued during his trip.

[INTERFAX] Did you manage to resolve the issue of maintaining the Russian radioelectronic center on Cuba during your working visit to Havana?

The question of maintaining the radioelectronic center on Cuba was not even raised. Both Moscow and Havana realize the need for it. That is why during my meetings with the Cuban leadership we discussed only the size and terms of Russia's compensation payments for the center.

It's noteworthy that the Cuban leader Fidel Castro, Defence Minister Raul Castro and other statesmen understand our domestic economic problems. Therefore our conversations were frank and constructive, and there was no tension at the talks.

[INTERFAX] How big is the compensation for the radioelectronic center?

Not too big - less than 200 million dollars a year, and not in money. This amount will be covered by Russian supplies of fuel, timber and spare parts for various equipment, including military.

Besides, it should be taken into account that Havana also takes some commitments upon itself, such as supplies for the Russian servicemen who work at the center.

[INTERFAX] Has it been defined for how long the center will be present on Cuba?

The need for it is permanent, both for Moscow and Havana, since the information it yields is granted to Cuba too. So far we have agreed to continue our compensation payments till the end of 1995, with the subsequent prolongation of the lease every year.

[INTERFAX] What is the relationship between Russia and Cuba in the area of military-technical cooperation?

It's no secret that the volume of our military supplies to Havana considerably decreased in the past few years. Earlier our relationship in this area was built on ideological basis, and we supplied Cuba with military equipment on favorable conditions, and sometimes gratuitously.

Now our relations with Havana are friendly, equitable and mutually beneficial. The very nature of our military-technical cooperation has also changed. In this connection Cuba's military command prefers to extend the time of service for the weapons and military equipment it already has, not purchase new types of arms.

[INTERFAX] From Cuba you went to South Africa. It seems to have been the first ever visit by a top Russian military official to Pretoria, doesn't it?

It does, indeed. That trip was to some extent historic. The first man in the military uniform of Russian armed forces stepped on the South African Republic's soil. Nor did any military delegation from the former USSR visited that country.

No wonder, the sides displayed caution, sizing up each other, but all that was friendly. At talks with South African military leaders, we agreed that it was essential for our armed forces to establish proper ties. This, naturally is a long process, but during our stay in Pretoria we made a good start.

With the republican armed forces supreme commander, we initialed a bilateral military cooperation agreement. The African side is expected to finally decide within two months on the matter so that the defence ministers of the two countries could sign the accord.

[INTERFAX] Is it a standard agreement?

Yes, it is. It sets military cooperation guidelines: An exchange by military delegations, training camps for peace-keeping troops, joint exercises, and so on.

[INTERFAX] On your way back from South Africa, you stopped over in Egypt. Which issues did you manage to resolve in Cairo?

If you recall, our relations with that country were at a halt from 1971 to 1972. When we talked to South African army chiefs, we admitted that our military contacts need to be resumed. Although the discussions looked insignificant at first glance, I am sure they will invigorate our military cooperation.

[INTERFAX] Did you agree on formal visits by the defence ministers of the two countries?

I did not risk to extend a formal invitation to Egyptian side, even though they invited Russia's Defence Minister Pavel Grachev to Cairo. I think we should not hurry with formal visits initially.

We agreed that the Egyptian side will select a number of issues of the most interest for it so that it would send a

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group of military experts to Moscow to examine the selected issues. Proposals should be drafted by experts and only then submitted to the defence ministers of the two countries for their approval.

[INTERFAX] It is common knowledge that back in Soviet time there were quite a few Soviet military specialists in a number of Afro-Asian countries. Has Russia kept this practice intact?

I can reply unequivocally that even though the presence of our military specialists in Afro-Asian countries has sharply diminished, it continues to exist. For instance, there are excellent staffs of military specialists in Syria and a number of other countries.

Their stay and pay are stipulated by bilateral intergovernmental agreements.

[INTERFAX] There is an extensive discussion going on concerning Russian armed forces. How do you assess them?

The army is going through all the difficulties that are facing our country. The key problem is the extremely inadequate funding of the armed forces.

When some people say that we, the military, lay a heavy burden on the national economy, I want to remark that over the last two and a half years the Russian armed forces have been cut by 905,000 men, a huge number, calling for a pretty penny to maintain. And the reduction is still underway.

By General Headquarters estimates, we will have to disband 70,000 commissioned and noncommissioned officers to meet the target set for us by President Boris Yeltsin as the Supreme Army Commander (1.7 million men by January 1, 1996 - INTERFAX), and that will require 4 trillion rubles. This sum is formed from the money ought to be paid to servicemen before demobilization in line with the Russian laws. This includes expenses on the disbanded officers travel, and their luggage transportation to their places of residence. Besides, many servicemen need to be provided with housing.

[INTERFAX] Given the current economic difficulties, how big the Russian army should be numerically?

I think it should be 1.5 million men strong.

[INTERFAX] Do you think the campaign against the Russian armed forces and their command has been cooked up?

I am convinced. I have documents to prove that special services in a number of foreign states and those who pursue their interests in Russia are at work to ruin our army.

[INTERFAX] What kind of mood is prevailing in the Russian army command?

Top Defence Ministry officials have recently discussed with the defence minister the main points of his upcoming speech in the State Duma. I wish newsmen would have attended that session to see the ministry leadership working in harmony as a team.

I assure you that there are no contradictions and currents within the command whatsoever. All stories that the Defence Ministry has broken into some camps, like an Afghan camp or some others, are fables.

Deputy Foreign Minister on Angolan Peace Accord

LD1311184694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1205 GMT 13 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Polyakov]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Lusaka, 13 Nov—The signing of a peace settlement for Angola in the Zambian capital, set for Tuesday, "is a major event not just for the southern African region, but for the world community as a whole," Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Kolokolov, who arrived in Lusaka today, has told an ITAR-TASS correspondent.

"The tragic events in Angola have been a concern for the whole world for many years, and not least for Russia, which has special links with this African country," he said. "Along with Portugal and the United States, we form a troika of countries playing a direct part in settling this protracted, difficult conflict. This is why Russia is not only following closely developments in Angola, but is also trying to put developments there on the right track through practical deeds." Kolokolov expressed the firm conviction that, despite the complications which have arisen over the past few days, the peace agreement will be signed according to schedule. [passage omitted]

Foreign Ministry Appeals to Angolan Government, UNITA

LD1311160194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1510 GMT 13 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 13 November—The Russian Foreign Ministry "urges" the Angolan Government and the UNITA opposition grouping to "demonstrate a high degree of political responsibility and refrain from strong-arm steps which could jeopardize the signing of the Lusaka protocol" planned for 15 November, says the statement issued by the Russian diplomatic department today.

The signing of the protocol, the document says, is planned for next Tuesday in the Zambian capital Lusaka. The protocol will consolidate the agreement between the Angolan Government and the leadership of the UNITA organization to resume a peace process in the country. In the opinion of the Russian Foreign

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Ministry, "this event should be the result of the efforts for many years by the Angolan people, the member-countries of the "trio" of the observers, the special envoy of the UN General Secretary, the UN Security Council, and the whole international community which were aimed at ending civil war and achieving national reconciliation".

"We expect that reason will prevail at this historic moment and peace will return to the suffering Angolan land", the statement by the Russian Foreign Ministry says.

Minister Reiterates Moscow's Desire To Join APEC

LD1111132594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1230 GMT 11 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Solntsev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 11 TASS—"Moscow hopes that Russia will become a fully fledged member of the organisation of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), a major regional intergovernmental body, after its moratorium on the admission of new members expires," Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Panov told ITAR-TASS today in connection with the upcoming second informal summit of seventeen countries and territories, affiliated to the organisation, scheduled to be held at Bogor, Indonesia, on November 15. A meeting at ministerial level opened today at Jakarta in preparation for the forum.

"Russia," Panov stated, "has repeatedly declared its desire to take part in the work of the APEC. However, the first meeting of the organisation's leaders in Seattle, held a year ago, imposed a three-year moratorium on the admission of new members. This step was prompted by its desire to carry out necessary organisational measures within this 'young' structure, set up only five years ago. We hope that Russia will become a fully fledged member of the APEC after the moratorium expires, the more so since the members of that organisation recognise the fact that Russia is part and parcel of the Asia-Pacific region and is able to contribute to the work of the APEC."

During his June visit to Russia, South Korean President Kim Yong-Sam, for instance, had acclaimed Moscow's desire to actively and constructively participate in all the areas of Asia-Pacific cooperation. He noted that the Republic of Korea favoured Russia's membership in the APEC. Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans later expressed the view that Russia was bound to be a fully fledged member of the organisation and would, without doubt, eventually play an important economic, political, and strategic role within the Asia-Pacific region.

The Russian deputy foreign minister said that Russia shared the idea of "open regionalism", backed by most members of the APEC. He noted that Russia's first direct contact with this organisation took place when a Russian Government delegation attended as observer at an APEC ministerial meeting devoted to problems of small and medium-size businesses this October at Osaka, Japan. According to Panov, this marked "a practical step towards direct rapprochement with the organisation, the experience of which could be used to promote the ongoing economic reforms in Russia."

DPRK Delegation Arrives; To Offer Economic Cooperation

LD1411053694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0522 GMT 14 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgenya Lents]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vladivostok November 14 TASS—A North Korean delegation arrived here on Monday [14 November]. On the delegation are experts from various branches of the North Korean economy who intend to offer a programme for close cooperation in construction, agriculture and the repair of fishing boats to Primorye (maritime territory) business people.

The delegation members are planning to meet with the administration of the territory, directors of state-sector enterprises, private companies, and financial establishments.

A mission of the administration council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is to open in Vladivostok soon, Hang Su Gil, the leader of the delegation and deputy chairman of the North Korean committee for foreign economic relations, told ITAR-TASS.

The administration council's mission will exercise coordination of and control over the operation of North Korean firms and joint ventures with their participation on the Pacific coast of Russia.

"Pyongyang intends to give a new impulse to further development of goodneighbourly relations with the Russian far east," the North Korean spokesman emphasised.

North Korea Asks Sakhalin for Help in Oil, Gas Prospecting

MK1011120094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 10 Nov 94 p 11

[Unattributed report: "North Korea Asks Sakhalin for Assistance in Oil Prospecting"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yi Sen-duk, North Korean consul general in Nakhodka, has asked Sakhalin Governor Yevgeniy Krasnoyarov for assistance in the form of equipment and specialists in connection with the commencement of oil and gas prospecting operations on the shelf of the Korean peninsula off North Korea's shore (Yellow Sea). The governor responded positively, Tatyana Davydova, chief of the Sakhalin Administration press service, said. The North Korean consul general could not specify so far, however, how many floating drilling rigs and specialists will be needed. A decision on

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this matter will be made following the North Korean diplomat's consultations with his government.

Defense Ministry Sells Two Aircraft Carriers to ROK Firm

OW1211123994 Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in Japanese 11 Nov 94 Morning Edition p 1

[By A. Poltov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vladivostok, 10 Nov—It was learned on 10 November that a contract has been concluded between Russia and a South Korean firm for the sale of two aircraft carriers, the Minsk and the Novorossiysk, which served as mainstay aircraft carriers for the Russian Pacific Fleet. According to information obtained by TOKYO SHIMBUN from the Pacific Fleet Department of the Resource Management and External Relations Directorate in the Russian Defense Ministry, the contract was concluded between the Russian Defense Ministry and "Yongyutong," a South Korean firm, on 16 November, and the South Korean firm has confirmed the contract.

Minsk and Novorossiysk, with displacement tonnage of 3,700 tons each, are Kiev-class aircraft carriers. Minsk and Novorossiysk were deployed to the Russian Far East Fleet in 1979 and 1984 respectively. During the Cold War era, they confronted the aircraft carriers Enterprise and Midway of the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Cuts in the Russian defense budget following the collapse of the Soviet Union have left the two aircraft carriers virtually decommissioned at the Sovetskaya Gavan base of the Russian Pacific Fleet.

The two Russian aircraft carriers were operated for only half of their durable years, and China has aggressively negotiated with Russia to purchase the two aircraft carriers since 1992 when it embarked on a naval buildup. Faced with concerns that if China purchased the two Russian aircraft carriers and put them into service it would upset the present military balance in the Far East, Russia asked 12 companies in the United States, South Korea, Japan, Germany, and India to purchase them for eventual use as scrap.

In the past, private companies including Navicon Conpas [name as published], a private company founded by retired Russian admirals, purchased Russia's decommissioned navy ships to sell them abroad. A decree issued by the Russian president later put the Resource Management and External Relations Directorate in exclusive charge of selling decommissioned navy ships to foreign nations. Therefore, Russia is believed to have sold the two aircraft carriers to the South Korean company as scrap after removing weaponry systems and communications apparatuses from them. South Korea has no facility large enough to dismantle the aircraft carriers and a Russian expert on the scrap market has said, "It is highly possible the two aircraft carriers will be resold to China."

DIA Director's China Visit Viewed, Agenda Suggested

MM1411150994 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Vladimir Skosyrev: "From Washington to Beijing on Spy Exchange"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beijing—The U.S. military intelligence chief's trip to China was organized in the best traditions of the Cold War. The Chinese Ministry of National Defense is keeping silent and the U.S Embassy in Beijing is refusing to confirm anything, yet it is well known that Lieutenant General James Clapper, director of the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency, is in China. Well-informed sources report that he is visiting People's Liberation Army units in the country's interior regions.

Chinese and U.S. military intelligence officers cooperated closely with each other when the Soviet Union existed. George Shultz, former U.S. secretary of state, wrote in his memoirs that Beijing helped Washington to monitor Soviet ballistic missile launches. In addition, the two intelligence services collaborated during secret operations in Afghanistan.

After Soviet troops left Afghanistan the volume of contacts between the two countries' spies decreased. The Americans hope that Clapper will manage to find out from his Chinese colleagues real data about the dimensions of the PRC military budget and about PRC military strategy. Washington would like to obtain more "transparency" from the Chinese in everything concerning their military plans.

In turn the Chinese side is trying to obtain an explanation regarding the ABM defense system that the United States intends to deploy at Pacific bases. Beijing believes that, if this project becomes a reality, expenditure on the ongoing modernization of China's "nuclear deterrent" could be considered to be money down the drain.

Russia, U.S. Cooperate in Joint Space Project

LD1211173094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0831 GMT 12 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Marina Barinova]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 12 Nov—A detailed plan for 1995-97, covering preparations for work at the Alpha international orbital station, has been agreed by the heads of the Russian and U.S. space agencies. Russia and the United States will start work and later they will be joined by the European Space Agency, Canada, and Japan.

Commenting today on the results of the conference of the heads of the Russian Space Agency and NASA which was held on Thursday, General Director of the Russian agency Yuriy Koptev told ITAR-TASS that during the meeting the "Russian participation in the project was

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clearly defined. We are to create several modules - a universal docking one and one for scientific experiments - and also a functional cargo and power units. The whole lot should be completed by 1998."

In Koptev's words, the work on assembling the station will be preceded by 11 flights of the U.S. Shuttle to the Mir orbital station and by 10 dockings with it. The first rendezvous is scheduled for February next year and the first docking for 10 June. As for the assembly of the international space station, it will start in the summer 1997 when the launch of the Proton heavy carrier rocket will take out into orbit the functional cargo unit designed by Russia which will be the foundation of the future station.

NASA director Daniel Goldin pointed out that "by 2002 six people will be able to man the station at the same time. Living conditions on board will undoubtedly be more comfortable than those that present cosmonauts enjoy. There will be more room to move, and the power supply will be better thought out. Modern equipment from Russia and the United States will be deployed in scientific experiments."

The crews will be transported to the station by craft belonging to all participants in the project. There will be the Russian Soyuz and Progress, the U.S. Shuttle and the European Ariane-5. Japan is formulating its own proposals.

During the present meeting, the directors of the RSA and NASA expressed the shared view that "the flight of the Alpha international station must be controlled by a unified center that will include all participants in the project. The results of the scientific studies must definitely be the property of the country that has provided financing for them."

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Political Issues

Yeltsin Rejects Confidence Linkage To Vote on Budget

MM1411145794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Nov 94 p 4

[Message from Russian President Boris Yeltsin "To the Deputies of the Federal Assembly Federation Council and State Duma"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Esteemed Deputies,

A number of the norms in the Federal Law "On the Procedure for Examining and Ratifying the Federal Budget for 1995" do not conform to the precise meaning of the constitutional statutes. This applies first and foremost to the wording of Paragraph Five of Article Five of the Law, which is at variance with Article 117 of the Russian Federation Constitution. The constitutional article does not link the raising of the question of an expression of no confidence in the government with any formal conditions, notably not with the results of a vote rejecting the draft federal budget.

Of course, the right to interpret the Russian Federation Constitution belongs to the Constitutional Court. But, given good will and a desire for agreement, this legal conflict can be eliminated by parliament itself.

I would ask you (in view of the impending examination of the budget) to return to this question in the very near future and adopt amendments to the Federal Law "On the Procedure for Examining and Ratifying the Federal Budget for 1995" in accordance with the Russian Federation president's letter dated 10 August 1994. I would ask you to pay main attention to the aforementioned wording of Paragraph Five of Article Five of the adopted law.

On the basis of Section One of Article 15 and Section Two of Article 80 of the Russian Federation Constitution the Russian Federation president's signature on the Federal Law "On the Procedure for Examining and Ratifying the Federal Budget for 1995" does not and cannot extend legal force to the words "expression of no confidence in the Russian Federation government or" (Paragraph Five of Article Five of the Law), because they are unconstitutional and therefore inapplicable. In this connection, the raising and examination of the question of the Russian Government's resignation on the basis of the aforementioned norm will not be regarded as constitutional by the Russian president.

I make this decision as guarantor of the Russian Federation Constitution until such time as a different ruling is delivered by the Russian Federation Constitutional Court.

[signed] B. Yeltsin

Gorbachev: Yeltsin Should 'Go Now Of His Own Accord'

LD1111183194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0836 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 11 Nov, ITAR-TASS—"The deepest delusion" was how ex-USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev assessed the opinion that the political course that he began is now being continued by the current Russian President Boris Yeltsin. We proposed the reformation of the Union and the preservation of a unified state, but Yeltsin's team began with the destruction of the Union, severed all ties with the republics, and the "CIS" was presented to the people as a new union, he said in an interview published today in NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA [NEW DAILY NEWSPAPER].

The burial of the Union gave rise to the consequences we see today, the former head of the Soviet state said. In no way is this Gorbachev's course. Moreover, we always understood that we have a complex country with a particular economy, with a special style of life of the people. Only gradual, evolutionary changes can alter it and help it. However, according to Gorbachev, since January 1992 in Russia there has merely been a primitive advance in market changes, and it is typical bolshevism to impose on people models that they have not chosen. Just as the communist model, which was held together through repressions, did not last in Russia, so borrowed capitalism will not work either, he believes.

In the opinion of the ex-president of the former union state, in Russia since 1991, the more rights the president has obtained, the more authoritarian the means of "running the country" has become, and the worse things have been. Instead of leading society to the reforms, they started to hammer them in—and all this with the aid of truncheons and the guns of tanks. But, you know, without the conscious support of the people, no model of 'new fortune' is possible!

We have arrived at corruption and mass crime! The structures of power have grown together with the world of the mafia, and it is pointless hoping that after this power will be able to control itself, Gorbachev went on. The authorities already know that their days are numbered, and they are feverishly seeking a way out, he believes. They will be afraid simply of postponing the elections because it would be an acknowledgement of their own defeat. In these conditions, according to the ex-president, the authorities might try to restore the monarchy so that the current president became regent with an adolescent heir to the throne.

Gorbachev is convinced that the presidential elections, despite the imposed opinion of the apathy of the electorate, will undoubtedly attract the people. But, at the same time, he stressed that the best thing the current president could do would be to go now of his own accord.

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Election Law Bill Moves To 'Guarantee' Rights

MK1211110094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Yekaterina Deynego in the "Projects" column: "The Central Electoral Commission Has Drafted New Laws. The Opposition Will Be Unable To Hold a Referendum"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A law, "On the Basic Guarantees of the Electoral Rights of Russian Federation Citizens," has been submitted to the Federation Council, which will become the basis for the Russian Federation's election code. This document is to integrate and systematize more than 300 various election laws being drafted by federation components, with each preparing three to four bills each.

The factions and groups of the Federal Assembly interested in the earliest possible adoption of election laws believe that the election code can include only federal election laws.

To expedite the presentation to the State Duma of another two bills—On the Referendum, and On Elections of State Duma Deputies—the Central Electoral Commission [CEC] 25 October held a roundtable with Federal Assembly deputies which discussed the documents. On 26 October they were also presented to a session of the Public Chamber.

For all the importance and topicality of these documents, however, State Duma deputies will hardly approve them without substantial change. The fact is that CEC developers allowed some serious deviations from the current election statute.

In particular, the draft federal constitutional law On the Referendum introduces a basically new article regulating questions that go before a nationwide poll. Thus, after this law is adopted, the following questions may not be submitted to a referendum in the Russian Federation: changes in the status of Federation components; approval and changes in the federal budget; imposition, changes, and lifting of federal taxes and levies, and so forth. The document also tightens up preliminary conditions for initiating a referendum. Now a decision by 2 million people is needed to hold it, or it may be called at the decision by "15 Federation components, the president, the State Duma or the Constitutional Assembly of the Russian Federation." Furthermore, a decision on holding a referendum should also be made by the Constitutional Court, whose main tasks will be to judge of the constitutionality of the questions submitted to a referendum.

Given these "nuances" of the new legislation, it can be surmised that the opposition will have very few chances to initiate a referendum on matters affecting it. For instance, the referendum on early presidential elections which the communists are now seeking to organize, CEC member Anatoliy Kovler told the Public Chamber session, can be only of an advisory character because the presidential term of office is strictly specified in the Russian Federation Constitution.

The Federal law On Elections of State Duma Deputies was presented to the roundtable in two versions. The first one is based on the principles of a mixed election system which strongly differs from the one used in December 1993. Thus, under this document, 450 single-seat constituencies will be formed in the Russian Federation; all election blocs and associations will nominate a candidate in each constituency while independent candidates must be residents of this constituency. In addition, election blocs and associations will also present and register their federal-wide lists. A new procedure is also envisioned for their registration: Election associations are to clear a 5-percent hurdle—and election blocs a 7-percent hurdle—but those already represented in the current parliament will not need to raise any votes in support. In balloting, the elector has the right to vote either for a particular deputy or an election bloc.

The procedure of seat distribution is such that in a place where no one candidate polls 20 percent, this seat will be transferred for distribution to that election association which will have polled no less than 20 percent in this constituency.

The second version of the draft law fully duplicates the first insofar as refers to registration of election associations; but while using the same, mixed, system of seat distribution, it envisions a different procedure, which is closer to the 1993 election model. Some 300 State Duma deputies are elected on the majority principle in single-seat constituencies and 150 deputies on the basis of proportional representation in the federal election district. In single-seat constituencies where none of the candidates get the required number of votes, vacancies will be distributed using election association slates.

Chubays Interviewed on Reforms, New Appointments

LD1211112594 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0812 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Anatoliy Chubays, first deputy prime minister of the Russian Government, in an interview with observer Vladimir Savchenko, talked in general terms about the importance of his new post.

[Begin recording] [Chubays] My appointment was based on quite clear and principled reasoning. This reasoning stems primarily from the decision the government took concerning the second stage of reforms, a decision that was fully approved by the president. The decision stemmed from the 1995 budget and from the longer-term document—the three year program that we have drawn up for the first time and that covers 1995-1997 and that in effect constitutes the second stage of Russian reforms.

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For this second stage it is necessary to consolidate forces. It is necessary to creat a team that deeply believes in this, shares its aims, will fight for it and bear responsibility for everything that happens. Therefore, Chubays appeared in this capacity.

[Savchenko] Fine. At first it was announced that you would take charge of the whole economic block, and one might say that this was very pleasant. But then they immediately took relations with international financial organizations away from you and put you actively in charge of, as I understand it, finances within the country.

[Chubays] How can I have had this taken away from me? In the past week alone I twice held meetings and important talks with World Bank President Preston. I convened an important conference in my office with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Links, the Ministry of Fuel, and the Ministry of Finance on the conditions connected with granting a revolutionary loan, and I tackled dozens of technological questions underlying this problem. So it is not a question of taking something away. It is simply—and this is something that I proposed—that Oleg Dmitriyevich Davydov, minister of foreign economic links, was appointed deputy prime minister, and he will be in charge of this block.

But judge for yourself: The number of problems, the quantity of blocks and ministries that remain within the sphere of the first prime minister for economics is so large that it is simply unthinkable to embrace all of it. It is simply unthinkable, and therefore deputy prime ministers are needed. It is not just Davydov who is needed; at the same time it was decided to appoint Alekseyevich Bolshakov as deputy chairman of the government, and he will be in charge of questions connected with the CIS; and I also actively supported this decision. So these were natural decisions and no one should think that something has been taken away from me.

How can one talk of taking something away when I had consultations on CIS matters with Viktor Stepanovich [Chernomyrdin] on matters connected with Belarus; and Viktor Stepanovich instructed me to prepare the talks with President Lukashenka of Belarus. After this I sat down with Bolshakov and we discussed how precisely we would prepare for these talks next week. None of these questions have been taken out of my competence.

[Savchenko] Some of the press doubts whether you can work actively with the new minister of economics.

[Chubays] This is nonsense since I was the one who suggested this candidacy and defended it. In effect, he was appointed on my initiative. Therefore, I have very great respect for Yevgeniy Grigoryevich Yasin, whom I have known for a long time as a very authoritative specialist in this sphere. I am convinced that this personnel decision was simply what was needed. [end recording]

Chubays went on to say that he would also get on well with Soskovets.

New Finance Minister Panskov Supports Reform

LD1311010394 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 12 Nov 94

[Interview with Finance Minister Vladimir Pansov by Sergey Medvedev; place and date not given; from the "Novosti" newscast—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Medvedev] Vladimir Georgiyevich, do you consider your appointment somewhat unexpected? Were your prepared for it?

[Panskov] Quite honestly, I didn't expect to receive such a proposal from the chairman of the government. I do not consider myself to the president's man, or the government's man or to be the man of some party or other. I assess my own significance as such: I follow the reform which is being carried out. I follow the policy which the government is pursuing today to achieve financial stabilization. Today, neither banks nor the population are putting money into substantial projects, and the main cause, or one of the main causes of this is inflation. That is why the budget needs to be made fairly tough and it is.

[Medvedev] Boris Fedorov says the budget isn't tough and, further, that you are engaged in wishful thinking.

[Panskov] Esteemed Mr. Fedorov evidently thinks that a tough budget is one in which a huge income is amassed and expenditure is cut in the process of approving the budget and then there is a second cut in expenditure in implementing the budget. But why should we take that course? The budget should be one where all who are in some way connected with it assess its possibilities realistically.

[Medvedev] There are many who call you, the government, and in particular, you, the new cabinet, a transitional government. Do you feel that you have taken up this post temporarily?

[Panskov] If I felt I had been taken on temporarily I wouldn't have agreed to take that post - that's the first thing, although I realize full well that the Soviet era has passed and that ministers aren't appointed for 10, 15 or 20 years. And realistically, let's say, in a year's time, when the elections to the Federal Assembly are held, a change of government is quite possible. But I think that a great deal can be done in a year if there is good will. Therefore, I neither want nor wish to feel superfluous.

More Government Reshuffles Reportedly Possible

LD1311190694 Moscow NTV in Russian 1800 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Incidentally, we have learned today about one more possible personnel reshuffle. According to unconfirmed data from sources in the Chechen opposition, Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray has been relieved of his duties as coordinator for

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the Russian federal bodies of power as regards Chechnya. We should remind you that Shakhray has been out of favor with the president for some time. In any case that is what they say, and at the same time some observers think that this has something to do with the fact that Shakhray is the leader of the PRES [Party of Russian Union and Accord] party.

It is also curious that ex-Deputy Prime Minister Shokhin—who was practically forced to resign, and Minister of Justice Kalmykov—whose resignation is pending in the opinion of many—are also members of the PRES leadership. If Kalmykov really resigns, and if the information about Shakhray not coordinating Chechen matters any more is correct, it will be difficult to argue with those political analysts who maintain that despite the support given by the PRES faction to the government during the vote of no confidence on 27 October, this party is now definitely out of favor with the Kremlin.

Yavlinskiy Intends To Run for Presidency

LD1311175194 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1600 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Grigoriy Yavlinskiy has confirmed his intention to put forward his candidacy in the presidential elections. Let me remind you that he favors them being held in 1995, considering that the present head of state has exhausted his potential as a reformer.

Advocates Early Presidential Elections

LD1211210594 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1900 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Yabloko faction in the State Duma awaits a specific program from the renewed government. According to Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, without it the recent cabinet reshuffles are an attempt to let off steam and have no real meaning.

In addition, Grigoriy Yavlinskiy said it should be asked whether Yeltsin's potential as a reformer has been exhausted. For this reason the Yabloko leader considers it necessary to hold presidential elections in 1995. Only in that case will the reformers be left with a chance of coming to power, Yavlinskiy claims.

Communist Leader Outlines Plans, Party Strength

LD1211192594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1125 GMT 12 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valentina Ivanova]

[FBIS Translated Text] Cheboksary, 12 Nov—If there are early State Duma and presidential elections "we intend to set up a union of state-patriotic forces to which the Communist Party, the Agrarian Party, socialists, the Association of Goods Producers, and women's and veterans' organizations will belong," Gennadiy Zyuganov, leader of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, who arrived in Cheboksary to meet the electorate, told ITAR-TASS today.

Asked how many communists there were in Russia now, the leader of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation faction in the State Duma replied: "We now have 550,000 members and over 20,000 grassroots party organizations." Gennadiy Zyuganov thinks that the entire structure of the Communist Party has practically been restored in Russia - "right up to the most remote rural rayons."

Speaking of the strengthening of the communists' positions, the leader of the Communist Party of Russia said that "during the elections to the representative bodies of power we managed to get our our representatives in practically everywhere."

Gennadiy Zyuganov said that the communists "have a so-called 'red belt' from Pskov via Novgorod, Central Russia, the North Caucasus, the South, Orenburg, Altay - right up to Blagoveshchensk where our influence is decisive."

The leader of the communists also recalled that he is not "a supporter of armed uprising for which some people are calling." According to him, a new revolution, similar to the October Revolution, and a civil war would be "a tragedy for all."

Returning to theme of possible early elections, Gennadiy Zyuganov said that victory would be won in future by whoever was "able to form a strong, competent and professional team of authoritative people capable of governing the country." He added that leftwing forces in this case are ready also "to put forward their program and government line-up."

Economic Issues

1995 Inflation Rate To Rise by 400 Percent

MK1211122094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 12 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Viktor Khamrayev under the "Analyses" rubric: "Experts of Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Do Not Expect Stabilization of Financial Market and Fear Lest Central Bank Turn Into 'Body of Authority Responsible to Nobody'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] By ratcheting up the profitability of government treasury bonds, the Finance Ministry is setting a 400-percent inflation rate for next year. This conclusion was revealed to journalists by Expert Institute specialists of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs [RUIE], who analyzed the reasons for and implications of "Black Tuesday" and also the executive authorities' reaction to it.

At the same time, Valeriy Fadeyev, deputy institute director, said, against the backdrop of the Central Bank's

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latest efforts "to set a lukewarm pace of the exchange rate" (by Mr. Fadeyev's estimates, approximately 50 percent a year) the announced profitability of government treasury bonds of 300 percent per year paves the way for fairly profitable speculations: Rather simple transactions in dollars and treasury bonds could earn an annual return of up to 150 percent in hard currency. This "will not contribute to stability on financial markets," institute experts think.

A similar verdict was passed at the news conference on recommendations drawn up by Mr. Lobov's commission for the State Property Committee ("they propose that a sell-off of shares of popular enterprises be staged according to the best Soviet traditions") and the Savings Bank (which "could thus well be driven to bankruptcy").

The RUIE is concerned about calls for commercial banks "to be curbed" and also the State Duma's second reading of the draft law on the Central Bank, banks, and banking activity, which is scheduled for 16 November. If the deputies pass the bill as it stands now, the Central Bank would "effectively turn into a body of authority that will be controlled by nobody," Oleg Grigoryev, institute adviser, said.

Bankers Defend Their 'Black Tuesday' Behavior

MM1411141394 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 12 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Yelena Loriya: "Echo of 'Black Tuesday': Every Bank Wants a Profit"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The notorious "Black Tuesday" seems to have brought our bankers more headache than profit. Countless attacks by the authorities have forced bankers to gather and explain themselves....

The Association of Russian Banks held a press conference on the subject of the "ruble's collapse" at the Slavyanskaya Hotel Thursday [10 November]. A letter from the Association of Russian Banks Council to Security Council Secretary Oleg Lobov was circulated among journalists. The bankers asked Oleg Lobov for clarification on the whole series of charges brought against them. In particular, what precisely is meant by "exchange speculation" and, if there was a "commercial bank conspiracy" aimed at undermining the ruble, which banks were involved in it?

The banks cannot be said to have earned fantastic amounts that day. According to a representative of the Imperial Bank, on "Black Tuesday" they acquired $1.5 million, which is a fairly modest amount by bank yardsticks. Most-Bank claims that it earned $42,000.... Many people forget for some reason that the profits from currency transactions represent a negligible proportion of banks' overall profits.

And as for who earned money and how much from the ruble's collapse and the fact "that this is not an entirely good thing...." We have already gone through that. Alfa-Bank President Petr Aven, who used to be minister for foreign economic relations, said: "Our bank made $200,000 and that is supposed to be a bad thing. It is absurd when the government thinks that earning money is bad and unlawful! Why in that case is Mr. Soros still at liberty? After all at one time he 'toppled' the pound and made a billion doing so...."

Alternative Draft Budget Urges Huge Rise in Money Supply

MK1211120094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 12 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Boris Boyko: "The Budget Process Is Becoming a Toy for Intellectuals"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Two weeks have barely passed since the premier presented a draft budget to the State Duma, when the opposition parliamentary majority, which bristled at the government's innovations, went ahead with producing alternative budget concepts. This marketplace of ideas was launched at yesterday's press conference by Academician Veniamin Sokolov; and Yevgeniy Gilbo, chief of the "Modernization" Integration Economic Programs Development Center. They presented a budget concept built on an economic policy vision which differs drastically from the government's. According to the authors, this concept is shared by the Duma economic policy committee whose chairman, Sergey Glazyev, is a traditionally harsh critic of the current reform course.

The most remarkable point about the proposed budget concept is that it is based on a premise diametrically different from the theoretical basis of economic reform in Russia. The developers of the new concept believe that inflation in the Russian economy is not of a monetary but structural character: It is conditioned solely by production problems which are only aggravated by attempts to shrink the money supply in the context of price growth. The shortage of money in circulation is compensated for by the dollar component (in Gilbo's estimates, not less than $100-105 billion circulates in the Russian economy) and the "emission of arrears." ["emissiya neplatezhey"]

The conclusion drawn from these theoretical propositions is simple: To resolve all problems, the money supply must be not reduced but increased. According to the authors, money supply (and with it budget revenues) can be raised by 200 trillion rubles [R] at once by compensating for a shortage of money in circulation, which they estimate at R70 trillion, and R130 trillion of mutual arrears.

The further development of the plot is easy to predict: Once a mechanism to boost budget revenues has been found, all essential state expenditures can be financed and the budget deficit cut from R71.8 trillion, envisioned by the official draft, to R18.8 trillion. And then

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proceed with "vigorous innovative-investment activity oriented toward building the country's new scientific and industrial potential."

Furthermore, the authors believe, it will be possible gradually to reduce to a minimum the taxes on corporate entities and "forever to abolish taxes on individuals" (this concept has been given an attractive name: "Russia: an offshore zone"). Naturally, the operating commercial enterprises should respond to these measures with "a sharp increase in investment activity, legalization of shadow capital, and revitalization of production activity."

Compared to the Supreme Soviet, which built up expenditures through covert increases in budget revenues (the well known "play with deflators"), the State Duma looks more respectable. It is engaged in an intellectual pursuit: a search for perpetual motion, replenishing the Russian budget; this game is based on a new round of theoretical creativity.

Resolution Adopted Regulating Business Activities

LD1211190994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1758 GMT 12 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Krushinskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 12 TASS—The Russian Government has adopted a resolution regulating the mechanism of licensing business activities in the republic.

The resolution, which is expected to come into force within the next few days, envisages reducing the number of activities subject to licensing from 140 to 68 and simplifying the procedure, both from the organisational and financial point of view. In addition, licences will be issued for a longer period of time.

Trade, public catering and communal services will be exempt from licensing.

Vyacheslav Prokhorov, head of the department of ownership and entrepreneurship in the Russian Government, told journalists that the government is working out a set of measures to create a better climate for small and medium-sized businesses in Russia. In particular, they call for minimising the government's interference in business activities. When such interference occurs the anti-monopoly committee will act to stop it.

At present, a person who wants to launch his own business depends not only on government bureaucrats, but also racketeers. Instead of encouraging business activities, local authorities often act as a brake, pursuing absurd price policies and imposing various restrictions.

This leads to severe shortages of goods and services. The most recent example of such a situation is the "petrol crisis" in Moscow, where city authorities, ordering police to stop price rises, have only untied the hands of black market dealers who sell petrol at four times the established price or even more.

Yasin Interviewed on Economy, Inflation, Bank Credits

LD1211235694 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 12 Nov 94

[Interview of Economics Minister Yevgeniy Yasin by Sergey Medvedev; from the "Novosti" newscast—live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Medvedev] Will we be living in an out-of-control market much longer? The new members of the government who received their portfolios this week—and, in the first place, of course, 60-year-old Professor Yevgeniy Yasin, who up until recently headed the analytical center of the presidential administration, will have to answer that question. He was given the post of minister of economics. [passage omitted] Now here is Yevgeniy Yasin.

Yevgeniy Grigoriyevich, there are many who think that your appointment is quite a compromise decision since Aleksandr Livshits, who became presidential assistant, had a claim to that post, as did Yakov Urinson who was deputy minister of economics. Your appointment suits the president best of all, is that so?

[Yasin] Well, I think that you're right in a certain sense—I really am the result of such a compromise between various sides, and between the government and the president, and I think that what was meant somehow was legislative power since there are certain notions about me being a moderate person, and in this respect, obliging.

[Medvedev, interrupting] And is that right?

[Yasin] Yes. Although I have to say that my moderation is assumed, and if I see there is a need to be a radical then I will become a radical. But this is when there is a need for that and I am not a radical by nature. But Yakov Urinson perhaps would have been a better minister than me in a certain respect. He is a great help to me now and on the whole we will work together. Each of us has his strong side and things may come out best if these sides are united.

[Medvedev] Could you formulate your credo now? Your credo as a minister?

[Yasin] To travel the remaining path as quickly as possible so that people begin to live better.

[Medvedev] And what is your forecast? A battle for the budget lies ahead, it really will be a battle, a battle in parliament—it really will be a battle. We can take this on board now. What will happen if the budget cannot be defended? Maybe the government of Shakhray really will fall and will have to go?

[Yasin] That is not ruled out. I think that the budget will not be a reason for the government to go.

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[Medvedev] Why?

[Yasin] Well, because in the first place, we can see a certain place in the budget that is vulnerable to criticism and we are preparing ourselves for that without waiting for investigation. We will not be stubborn and we will compromise in some questions. We will reach agreement with deputies. But we will be stubborn in one respect, of course, if it can be put like that. That is on the question of putting an end to the use of Central Bank credits for covering the budget deficit. This is a fundamental question. This is the question of putting a stop to inflation. The main....

[Medvedev, interrupting] You do not want to print money which is unbacked any more?

[Yasin] No, no, and no again! We cannot permit ourselves unjustified expenses today. We cannot build the Cathedral of Christ the Savior today. We cannot build the Moscow-St. Petersburg super-high-speed highway—no matter how much we want to.

Discusses Budget Issues, Reform

LD1411000894 Moscow NTV in Russian 1800 GMT 13 Nov 94

[Interview with new Minister of Economy Yevgeniy Yasin by correspondent Kiselev near Moscow on 13 November—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Kiselev] I will remind you that commenting on Anatoliy Chubays's appointment as first deputy prime minister during our last week's edition, we suggested that any genuine assessment of this appointment was possible only in retrospect, that is, after the name of the new economics minister was announced. [passage omitted]

The new economy minister is 60 years-old. He is a professor and a doctor of economic sciences. He is an authority among young reformers and, what is more important, in the directors' corps. [passage omitted]

At his country cottage near Moscow this morning Yevgeniy Yasin gave an interview to our program.

[Kiselev] Yevgeniy Grigoryevich, could you divulge the secret of how your appointment came about?

[Yasin] Quite unexpectedly. On Monday evening Anatoliy Borisovich Chubays offered me the post. I thought about it over night. On Tuesday morning I was simply faced with Hobson's choice.

[Kiselev] In what sense?

[Yasin] I had refused at first, and I kept refusing. I am not very suitable for this role.

[Kiselev] Why?

[Yasin] Because of my age, really. The post requires crazy energy, and a great deal of work. The work is specifically administrative, to which I am not really very accustomed. But then I was persuaded to accept the post, and the decision was taken in the evening that day. [passage omitted]

The situation in the government is such that it currently comprises people holding differing political convictions, and it was important to maintain a certain ratio. Following the resignation of Sergey Dubinin and Aleksandr Shokhin, the group of liberal reformers was weakened.

[Kiselev] Do you regard yourself as a liberal and a reformer?

[Yasin] The first thing I would like to say is that I am considered by other people to be as such. Generally, I also consider myself as such.

[Kiselev] Nevertheless, let us look at your situation. You have become the economics minister, succeeding a key member of the Yegor Gaydar team, Nechayev, and a former party bureaucrat Oleg Lobov who is now at the Security Council. Gaydar himself and Shokhin were economics ministers. But what about the Economics Minister Yasin? What distinguishes him from his predecessors? Have you got any fundamental disagreements with them in your approach to, and assessment of reforms.

[Yasin] Well, each case must be considered individually. My views and those of Oleg Ivanovich Lobov, I am afraid, differ radically on many issues, whereas Shokhin, Gaydar, and I think alike. [Passage omitted]

[Kiselev] What is the role of the Economics Ministry in ensuring sensible state protectionism? Priority industries, which have recently been named in this respect are aviation, space, and biotechnology, if I am not wrong.

[Yasin] Yes, indeed. I believe it is now extremely important for us to penetrate the world market not only with our gas and oil but also with high quality items of processing industry. This is crucial for Russia's matters. [passage omitted]

[Kiselev] Do you think we have now reached the bottom?

[Yasin] I would not say we have reached it. But we are close to it. [passage omitted]

[Kiselev] The TRUD newspaper doubted recently whether you will be able, like some of your predecessors, to argue with the top ranks, defending your own point of view.

[Yasin] I cannot say anything about it, because I have never been a minister before. It is quite difficult to predict whether a person appointed as minister will behave the same as he behaved when he was head of a research institute. The only thing I can say is that I am a person of principle. If my principles are called into doubt I will not give in. I have to quote through Mikhail

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Svetlov [Russian poet of 1920s-1930s] who said: There is no point in being principled about small matters. [passage omitted]

[Kiselev] Do you agree with the new finance minister on policies?

[Yasin] I think so. Admittedly, we have not yet had any specific conversation about it.

[Kiselev] But have you generally talked to him?

[Yasin] Judging by the conversation we had, it will not be difficult for us to find a common language. [passage omitted]

[Kiselev] Do you think the Duma will adopt the draft budget? Do you share Chernomyrdin's confidence in this respect? Speaking recently in Kirov he said he was sure the Duma would pass the budget.

[Yasin] My duty of course is to support my prime minister, but I will do it with some reservations. I think the Duma will pass the budget but only after certain additions and changes are introduced into it. The Duma will want funds for agriculture. The agrarian faction will propose appropriate amendments on the subject. The military and industrial lobby will want an increase in the defense and army budget and so on. [passage omitted] I think that we must do some extra work on the budget in order to reduce the budget deficit. That is my main concern, and that is the most serious aim of my policy. We will do it either by increasing revenues or by reducing spending or both.

[Kiselev] Is there a problem of the Security Council's secretary actively interfering in economic reform. That is apart from the Black Tuesday incident, of course.

[Yasin] Up until recently this problem did not exist. But the "Black Tuesday" events have shown that potentially there is such a problem, and that it surfaces in certain acute situations. Generally speaking however, I do not think it is correct to oppose Chubays to Lobov. These figures cannot be compared, from the point of view of their economic policies. Chubays undoubtedly plays an incomparably more important role in the government. Admittedly, of course, Oleg Ivanovich Lobov naturally has access to the president and may exert certain influence on him. Nevertheless, the main executive power is in the hands of the government, as far as the economy is concerned. [passage omitted]

[Kiselev] Do you think your appointment and Chubays' promotion was a result of the radical change in Chernomyrdin's attitude toward how fast and tough the economic policy should be?

[Yasin] I would not put it as precisely. But I would say that following certain losses connected with "Black Tuesday" a certain realignment of forces took place as an offensive is about to be mounted.

[Kiselev] But many people believe that all these appointments and the reshuffle have been instigated by the president and his administration—not by Chernomyrdin.

[Yasin] I would not separate the president from the prime minister. In the case of the latest reshuffle they acted in a rather coordinated fashion. At times I think they bank too much on coalitionism [koalitsionnost] in the hope of bringing into the government certain compromise figures who will help to ensure support for the government program. I have a view of my own on the subject. Generally however, I would not say that the current government reshuffle is completely the result of the president's pressure on the prime minister. You know they are living people. Of course from time to time there are disagreements. That happens as well, I am convinced. But I am just as convinced that each knows very well that he needs the other very much. The combination of and cohesiveness in the activities of these two people is a source of a guarantee for political stability. So, I do not think that either of them would want to break this alliance of his own free will.

[Kiselev] Thank you for your interview. I wish you success in your new post.

[Yasin] I will need it very much. Therefore, thank you.

Livshits Holds Press Conference for Journalists

MM1411112994 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by A. Pelts: "Aleksandr Livshits: 'We Will Do All We Can for the Army and the Defense Industry.' Aleksandr Livshits, Russian Federation President's Aide for Economics and Relations With Government, Holds Briefing for Russian and Foreign Journalists"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The main subject was the ruble's recent massive drop against the U.S. dollar and the draft budget for the new year.

Commenting on the drop in the ruble, Aleksandr Livshits stressed first and foremost that he does not see any political intrigue behind this. Economists expressed certain concerns about this subject a long time before "black Tuesday," but, the president's aide believes, Russian bankers did not assess the situation entirely correctly. He believes that the banking community should have displayed greater responsibility for the future of the national currency, and not just expressed alarm about the situation that had formed. A certain part of the blame lies with those who bear at least some responsibility for the country's economy and the position of the Russian ruble on the world market.

Commenting on the draft of the new budget, the president's aide stressed that he sees it as merely a good, sufficient basis for the elaboration of a truly realistic budget for the country for the new year. The work which

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has been done only forms a starting position, and naturally a great deal more can be done in order to go the whole way properly. Furthermore, Aleksandr Livshits believes that the rapid reduction in the budget deficit proposed by the government—from 75 percent to the so-called "zero option"—is unrealistic in practice. He advocated a gradual reduction of the deficit. Aleksandr Livshits spoke very critically about recent rumors that another version of the budget is being elaborated in the State Duma. This would be a fundamentally wrong step to take. Assessing the economic situation as a whole, he stressed that the period of economic retreat and the "licking of wounds" is coming to an end. The time of stabilization and the growth of the Russian economy is setting in. This process will be difficult, but the main thing is to make it controllable.

There is nothing more terrible than uncontrolled inflation, Aleksandr Livshits emphasized, developing his theme. I believe that the low level of inflation which people are currently talking about (7-8 percent a year) is also unrealistic. We should face up to the truth. Our standard is 15-20 percent a year. And that is on condition that the country's economy works normally and stably.

Answering a question put to him by your KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent on the proposed military expenditure in the new budget, the Russian Federation president's aide did not hide his concern. Aleksandr Livshits noted that virtually the whole summer was spent looking for ways out of the prevailing situation, particularly in the defense sector of the economy. Everything was done to prevent it from perishing. The president participated actively in this.

But the fact remains that a reduction in the Army is essential. How should this be done and within what time frame? This question was actively discussed in the Kremlin literally a few days ago. An hour was allocated to this on the basis of the protocol. But the Russian Federation president spent almost two hours on it, and asked about specific spheres of conversion, paying special attention to the structure of military expenditure. What will we spend money on—the construction of housing for servicemen, the funding of scientific research work in the defense complex—will we export its output, and so on? There are a lot of problems here. The main thing which Aleksandr Livshits assured us of is that they are all well known, and he personally would do everything in his power to help this major sector of the country's economy.

Agriculture Ministry Reports on Grain Harvest

LD1111152294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1205 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russia has harvested 84-85 million tonnes of grain and beans in net weight this year—the lowest index since 1981, the Ministry of Agriculture reports.

The head of the ministry's department of plant growing, Ivan Gridasov, said that the initial weight of the harvest corresponded to the forecast—90-95 million tonnes.

Gridasov sees the reason for the decline in grain production (from 99 million in 1993 and 106,8 million in 1992) in the reduction of areas sown under grain in general by more than 4 million hectares and of the share of winter crops by 3.7 million hectares, as well as the loss of winter crops on 3.2 million hectares over the winter. In addition, grain and bean crops on an area of about three million hectares were written off due to drought and other calamities, some of the fields were used as livestock pastures.

Gridasov said equipment shortages led to serious losses of grain as well. By the beginning of the harvesting season grain producers had at their disposal a mere 69 percent of the required number of combine harvesters. One machine was made to harvest 299 hectares, whereas the normal number is 131 hectares.

Military & Space Issues

Yeltsin Fears World Nuclear Arms Proliferation

LD1411120694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1126 GMT 14 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 14 Nov—President Boris Yeltsin believes that there is a real threat of a proliferation of nuclear weapons throughout the world.

"A real possibility of nuclear missile weapons appearing in Third World countries is emerging and the likelihood of their use by these countries is increasing," he said today at a two-day conference of the top command staff of the Russian armed forces.

The president also observed that it should not be forgotten that "there are still political, economic, territorial and religious contradictions in the world and that there is no cessation to the production of new types of armaments." "All this," Boris Yeltsin stated, "holds the potential for an expansion of existing, and the emergence of new, military conflicts in which Russia, by virtue of its geopolitical and geostrategic interests, could become involved."

At the same time Boris Yeltsin believes that the threat of a new world war has died down, this, in particular, owing to Russian nuclear forces. "The cessation of the cold war and the reduction of nuclear and conventional weapons has resulted in an easing of the threat of a world war. This, to no small extent, is a result of the presence of a nuclear shield in Russia as a reliable deterrent factor," he noted. He added, however, that the recent positive changes in the international situation "by no means signify that the problem of military danger has been dropped from the agenda."

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Colonel General Mikhail Kolesnikov, chief of general staff of the armed forces, gave the main report of the Ministry of Defense. Journalists were not allowed to be present during the reading of the report.

Yeltsin Addresses Defense Ministry Command Staff

LD1411110994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1005 GMT 14 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 14 Nov—Boris Yeltsin, the supreme commander of the Russian Armed Forces, has assessed highly the activities of the forces last year and formulated their tasks for the future. The organizational development and training of the Russian Federation Armed Forces has taken place in complex conditions, both inside the country and in the international arena, he said, speaking at a conference of top command staff at the Defense Ministry.

The president noted that positive changes in the international arena do not mean that the problem of military danger has been removed from the agenda. Because of our geopolitical and strategic interests we are obliged to make heightened demands on the training of forces, he noted. "Following the victory of conservatives in the U.S. mid-term elections, the United States can be expected to toughen its line somewhat in foreign policy and military problems," Boris Yeltsin believes. The president said that "contacts must be organized with the Republicans as well, in order to balance our relations."

The heads of the Defense Ministry have covered a lot of ground this year, the Russian Federation president said. He called the speedy withdrawal of troops from the near [former Soviet republics] and far abroad the main successes of the year. Boris Yeltsin considered this a task well accomplished. He also noted the efficient fulfillment of peacekeeping tasks.

The president said that the armed forces were reduced by 385,000 men this year and that by 1 January 1995 they should number 1,917,400. The State Duma must finish its work on the Law on Defense, he said.

Among the shortcomings in the ministry's work, the Russian Federation president pointed to the slow progress in improving organizational and staff structures, especially in its central apparatus. There is also a problem with manning levels. The Defense Ministry has made insufficient efforts to promote the army in the eyes of the public. The military command in the armed forces is not taking full responsibility for the combat readiness of its subordinates. There is a problem with discipline. Arms and resources are being wasted. And several generals and officers are not pulling their weight, the Russian Federation president said.

Touching on the interaction between the Defense Ministry and the border troops, the president said it is an abnormal situation for border troops to have to purchase weaponry in the Defense Ministry. "We must think first and foremost of common state interests," Boris Yeltsin declared.

The president was critical of the way in which issues relating to the social protection of servicemen are being tackled. He demanded that Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, who is attending the conference, should ensure the Armed Forces are fully financed. "The Armed Forces cannot themselves tackle the problems of financing and they must not be pushed on the road of commerce—they have their own objectives," the president said.

Boris Yeltsin defined as one of the main tasks for 1995 the need to maintain troops' combat readiness in all circumstances. He pointed to the need to implement measures for the organizational development [stroitelstvo] of the Armed Forces. The main efforts are to be focused upon further improving combat training of troops and upon the likelihood of them being used in local conflicts.

The president expressed a desire to meet with the chief commanders of the branches of the forces and instructed the Defense Ministry to coordinate a schedule for such meetings. Boris Yeltsin intends to hold meetings with each of the military commanders separately.

Gonchar Predicts Reshuffle in Defense Ministry

LD1311193794 Moscow NTV in Russian 1800 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Government reshuffles and the style in which they were carried out have not just ruined the last illusions of liberalism but have yet again confirmed that Russia is sticking to the tradition of appointing personnel to fit the demands of this particular moment in time. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording, Nikolay Gonchar, chairman of the Federation Council Budget Committee] I think that as far as cadre reshuffles are concerned the next week will be the week of the Ministry of Defense. I think that the appointment of a new minister of defense will be discussed. This situation is rather ambiguous, but if the president delays the solution of this matter he might lose control over the whole situation. It is very important to stay in control of the situation, because what might happen is that it will no longer be the president's decision, but a decision taken by the president under pressure from the Army. [end recording]

Grachev Says Armed Forces Controllable, Efficient

LD1411085194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0811 GMT 14 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

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[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 14 TASS—The Russian Armed Forces are controllable and efficient, Defence Minister Pavel Grachev said while opening a meeting of top military brass on Monday.

He added that his ministry had worked in 1994 according to the military doctrine.

The meeting is attended by President Boris Yeltsin, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, First Deputy Premier Oleg Soskovets, Head of the Counterintelligence Service Sergey Stepashin, heads of a number of ministries and departments.

Nuclear Forces Main Guarantor of Security

LD1411093694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0832 GMT 14 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 14 Nov—The armed forces are capable of guaranteeing Russia's national security, Defense Minister Pavel Grachev said at a conference of military chiefs which is under way in Moscow today. Boris Yeltsin, supreme commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces and president of the Russian Federation, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and heads of ministries and departments are taking part in this event.

The defense minister said that a growth in the troops' combat readiness has been registered. He also stated that the strategic nuclear forces remain today the main guarantor of security and a deterrent.

In the opinion of Pavel Grachev, navy training exercises were held at a high level this year as were joint maneuvers with U.S. and NATO ships. Strategic missiles were launched successfully during combat training exercises which demonstrated the high professional skill both of the members of the launcher detachments of the strategic missile troops and of the submariners of the Northern Fleet.

It is expected that Boris Yeltsin will address the conference. It is thought that his report will analyze the course of the reform in the Russian Armed Forces and that the tasks for raising combat readiness will be formulated.

Topol Strategic Missile Successfully Tested

LD1011143294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1412 GMT 10 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 10 Nov—The training for and combat launch of a Topol strategic missile was successfully carried out at the Plesetsk testing ground today.

Lieutenant General Viktor Yesin, chief of the general staff of strategic missile troops, told ITAR-TASS that the missile hit the target in a specified area on the Kamchatka Peninsula.

Telemetric data, General Yesin said, would be conveyed to the command of U.S. strategic nuclear forces in accordance with international agreements on information exchange. A preliminary notification about the launch was issued through relevant channels.

Progress M-25 Cargo Craft Docks With Mir Orbital Station

LD1311115194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0948 GMT 13 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS freelance correspondent Viktor Gritsenko]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 13 November—The Progress M-25 automatic transport and cargo craft docked successfully with the Mir manned orbital station today at 1204 hours Moscow time.

The space cargo vehicle docked with the station on the side of the Kvant module. The docking process was carried out automatically and was monitored both by the crew of the 17th main expedition aboard the station, consisting of Aleksandr Viktorenko, Yelena Kondakova, and Valeriy Polyakov, and by the team of controllers on duty at the Flight Control Center outside Moscow with the help of separate command and measurement complexes belonging to the Russian military space forces.

The transport and cargo craft has delivered more than two tonnes of cargoes and expendable materials to the station for the expedition, which lasts until 26 March 1996, including fuel for the joint power plant, equipment, scientific apparatus, foodstuffs, and drinking water. This cargo vehicle launch has completed the year's program of flights to the Mir station. The next flight will be launched in February 1995.

According to telemetric information and astronauts' reports, the on-board systems are operating normally.

Institute Researchs Beaming Energy From Moon

MM1411092394 Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 11 Nov 94 p 4

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Anna Bakina: "Moon as Source of Clean Power for Earth"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Russia may be able to use the moon in the near future as a raw material base for clean power. At least scientists from the M.V. Keldysh Thermal Processes Research Institute are confident of that.

Institute Director Anatoliy Koroteyev said that this will be possible if microwave stations are sited on the moon powered by electricity from solar panels, which must in

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turn be manufactured on the moon. The transportation of industrial equipment and people to a lunar production base is the most important element in this system.

Institute specialists are now trying to tackle this problem in several ways. Thus work is under way to develop a space-based solar gas-turbine unit for the Alpha international station that is being built in conjunction with the United States, as well as liquid-fuel rocket engines using an environmentally clean oxygen-methane mix for single-stage, multiple-use, highly economical delivery vehicles, which ensure a tremendous flow of freight. Comprehensive studies are also being conducted into the whole system of supplying the earth with power from space in order to choose a rational size and parameters for the engines and the transporters' power units.

Federal Assembly

U.S. Consular Practices Spark Outcry in Duma

MK1111103094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 11 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Maksim Sokolov: "Our Response to Chamberlain" [slogan popular in late 1920's, challenging world capitalism, imperialism]]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the Duma International Affairs Committee, yesterday sided with Defense Committee Chairman Sergey Yushenkov. The international affairs expert and the army man are outraged by the ways of the U.S. consular service which, according to Lukin, arouse "anti-American feelings." The impression is that Russian democrats are no longer content to put up with slaps in the face from the democratic West.

Lukin, former Russian ambassador to the United States, expressed his indignation over the policy by the State Department which "refuses entry visas to many worthy people and common citizens of Russia, and at the same time grants the right to enter their country to those of our compatriots whom the Americans themselves only recently were calling fascists," and described such policy as "humiliating to the Russian people." Lukin stated that he supports Colonel Yushenkov, who earlier announced that he is stopping any official or unofficial contacts with U.S. congressmen and administration representatives. The State Department, according to Yushenkov, must provide official explanation why "pro-fascist Russian deputies" (the reference is to Vladimir Zhirinovskiy) were allowed to enter the United States, whereas the son of a well-known human rights activist, Petr Grigorenko, who wanted to bid a final farewell to his dying mother, was refused a visa, and did not get one until after a public outcry raised by Duma human rights ombudsman Sergey Kovalev, and a chiding that consulate officials received from Washington. In the process of the Grigorenko case a U.S. consulate officer noted that the United States does not consider itself bound by the Helsinki accords on assisting contacts between relatives, and (apparently emulating the Brezhnev-era USSR) takes guidance only from its internal laws. When it transpired that its domestic law does not prevent the issuing of a visa to Zhirinovskiy, the Duma members' patience snapped.

The demarche is initiated by the chairmen of two parliament committees, which are key in relations with the United States, and a human rights representative (which is not quite seemly for a citadel of democracy, either). The Duma deputies have apparently decided that a high-level public scandal is the last thing that can affect the U.S. side. In making this decision, they could have been inspired by Premier Chernomyrdin's recent demarche canceling a visit to Poland after an act of violence against Russians at a Warsaw railway terminal. Lukin noted that the U.S. consular service practices "provoke anti-American sentiments, primarily in Russia's democratic circles," and the democrats, apart from purely human indignation, could have assumed that this mood is a political reality—and that pretending nothing has happened would have meant abandoning matters of national pride to the patriots.

'Destructive' U.S. Decision on Bosnia Condemned

LD1111165794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1610 GMT 11 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 11 Nov—The State Duma has expressed protest at the U.S. unilateral decision in the Yugoslav crisis. The statement adopted by the chamber today stresses that these actions are undermining the work of the Contact Group.

The statement says the U.S. Administration has taken a decision which undermines the embargo regime on arms supplies to Bosnia.

The State Duma thinks the decision is in striking contradiction to the principle of resolving multilaterally complex international issues which the United States itself is proclaiming in words. These actions by the United States which have been dictated by current internal political considerations lead to chaos and arbitrariness in international relations and to a sharp aggravation of the Balkan crisis, the statement says.

Given the new situation, the State Duma advises the president and the government of the Russian Federation to take measures to nullify the destructive actions of the United States and inform the Russian Federal Assembly of the measures taken.

The chamber also proposes that the president and government should study the possibility of tabling this issue as an emergency item on the UN Security Council agenda. The deputies of the lower chamber of the Russian parliament consider that Russia should do the

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maximum possible to counter the unjustified and unilateral actions of the United States in the Yugoslav crisis with a well-considered and coordinated approach leading to an end of the bloodshed.

Duma to Examine U.S. Lifting of Bosnian Arms Embargo

LD1111123994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1152 GMT 11 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 11 Nov—The issue of the United States lifting the ban on supplying weapons to the Bosnian Muslims has been put on the agenda of today's plenary sitting of the State Duma. This is how deputies reacted to a speech by Vyacheslav Nikonov, their colleague from the Party of Russian Unity and Accord group, who have had the authenticity of international news agency reports on the lifting of the U.S. embargo confirmed at the Russian Foreign Ministry.

He proposed to parliamentarians that the situation be examined in the chamber and that they pass a declaration which would be drawn up by the Duma Committee for International Affairs. The Duma agreed with these proposals.

Draft Law Approved on Presidential Elections

LD1011191494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1631 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Russian State Duma Council approved the draft law on presidential elections in Russia worked out by members of the Yabloko faction, Vladimir Averchev and Sergey Mitrokhin, and member of the Federation Council Yuriy Boldyrev, Yabloko leader Grigoriy Yavlinskiy told Interfax.

He said that on November 14 Yabloko would introduce to the State Duma Council other draft projects included into the draft of the code on elections.

Yavlinskiy said that in accordance with the draft law on the presidential elections the Russian president could put forward candidates for the presidency.

Candidates for the presidency can also be proposed by Russian residents by collecting at least 250,000 signatures in favor of a candidate. The right to put forward candidates for the Russian presidency is also given to the Federation Council (at least 20 deputies or, in another version, at least one fifth of the members of the Federation Council) and the State Duma (a candidate can be proposed by a faction or a deputy group or by at least one fifth of State Duma members).

A candidate for the presidency can also be put forward by one fifth of the federation's constituent members (at least 18 regions).

Yavlinskiy said that the draft law regulated formation of the collegium of the Central Election Commission for presidential elections to which the two chambers of the parliament would delegate five members each chamber.

Yavlinskiy said that the draft law stipulated the suspension of the powers of an incumbent president intending to run for the presidency at the elections during the election campaign.

Draft Law on Handling Radioactive Waste Rejected

LD1111185394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1600 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russia's State Duma turned down the draft law on state policy in handling radioactive wastes on Friday and sent it back to the parliamentary committee for environmental protection for finalization.

On July 7, the State Duma approved this draft law at first reading.

The Cabinet's official representative, Deputy Minister for Atomic Energy Nikolay Yegorov told the State Duma on Friday that this draft law is "declarative and does not clearly define the sphere of competence of all branches of authority."

President Boris Yeltsin, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Russian Federation's Security Council and the ministries for economics, environmental protection and justice have sent a document to the State Duma stating their negative attitude to the draft law.

Chernomyrdin's letter to State Duma Speaker Ivan Rybkin says that this draft law must be considered jointly with two other draft laws - on the population's radiation security and on the utilization of atomic energy.

Duma Deputies Fail To Adopt Law on Organized Crime

LD1011161594 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] After devoting the whole of the morning to the discussion of two alternatives for the draft law to combat organized crime, the State Duma was still unable to adopt either of them in their first reading.

According to our correspondent, the first draft law to combat organized crime presupposes that the cases of criminal cartels will be examined by specialist judges working in three expert courts. Critics of the draft law drew attention to the fact that this clause is in violation of the Constitution, according to which the setting up of special courts is not permitted.

Nevertheless, 201 deputies voted for that draft law, and 87 voted for the alternative variant, the draft law on

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law-based measures for intensifying measures to combat crimes perpetrated and premeditated by organized groups: 226 votes were needed.

Five Deputies Support No Confidence Vote on Rybkin

LD1111090194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0852 GMT 11 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 11 TASS—Only five deputies of the State Duma voted for no-confidence in Speaker Ivan Rybkin. The vote of no-confidence in the speaker was suddenly proposed for a roll-call by Liberal Democrat Aleksandr Kozyrev. He accused the speaker of political unscrupulousness and double-dealing, but did not cite any facts. Still, he referred to some "newly uncovered circumstances".

After Kozyrev spoke over the mike during a debate on the agenda for the Friday [11 November] plenary meeting, Rybkin immediately put to vote the call of no-confidence he formulated.

Sixteen State Duma Deputies Join People's Capital Group

LD1011180994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1452 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sixteen members of the Russian State Duma have agreed to join the People's Capital group, the setting up of which was announced by Sergey Mavrodiy, former MMM company president. Mavrodiy himself elected recently in the Mytishchi Constituency, Moscow Region, has expressed a desire to serve on the parliamentary Security Committee.

Aleksey Mitrofanov, Liberal Democratic member of the State Duma who had campaigned for Mavrodiy's election, said at a news conference in Moscow Thursday [10 November] that People's Capital would be joined by a Derzhava (Great Power) group of five deputies who had broken away from the Liberal Democratic Party, some other Liberal Democrats and numerous "regional" deputies. Talks with other MPs are underway, Mitrofanov said.

Duma Committee Backs Paramonov as Central Bank Chairman

LD1411093594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0850 GMT 14 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 14 Nov—The State Duma Committee for Budget, Taxation and Finances today voted overwhelmingly in favor of recommending that the lower house of parliament confirm Tatyana Paramonov in the post of chairman of Russia's Central Bank. Paramonov's candidacy was supported by 17 members of the committee, with only two voting against. Four deputies abstained.

Paramonov was appointed acting chairman of Russia's Central Bank by President Boris Yeltsin after Viktor Gerashchenko was forced to leave this post following the ruble slide on 11 October.

Regional Affairs

Yeltsin Expresses 'Concern' Over Sverdlovsk

LD1011181994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1631 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin, in a telephone conversation with the head of the Administration of the Sverdlovsk Region (the Urals) Aleksey Strakhov, expressed concern over the violation of the Russian Constitution when the region adopted its charter.

According to Strakhov, on November 21 Yeltsin intends to visit Yekaterinburg to see the situation on the spot.

On October 29 the Sverdlovsk regional Duma adopted a regional charter, according to which the region was declared an equal subject of the Russian Federation with the right to its own legislation, flag, emblem and anthem.

Strakhov did not sign the law on enactment of the charter and submitted amendments to the Duma. The head of the administration said that the supremacy of regional laws, the introduction of the charter court and other provisions violate the Russian Constitution.

For his part, Chairman of the Sverdlovsk Regional Duma, Eduard Rossel spoke of the intention to violate the veto of the administration head and called the amendments groundless.

At the special session on Thursday the Duma started considering the amendments. Most of them are being declined by deputies.

Shakray Denies Plans To Negotiate With Dudayev

LD1111213794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1925 GMT 11 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow 11 Nov (TASS)—Russian Vice- Premier Sergey Shakhray refuted today claims of the Groznyy authorities saying Moscow is ready for negotiations with Dzhokhar Dudayev. This report was circulated after a recent Moscow visit of Chechen Vice-Premier G. Ferzauli.

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Shakhray told ITAR-TASS he did meet the vice-premier last week who requested to resume railroad communications via the Chechen Republic. The communications were broken because of regular train pillage and loss of life.

As for claims on possible negotiations, Shakhray told the Chechen representative that the main condition to normalize the Chechen situation is "voluntary resignation of Dzhokhar Dudayev and free democratic elections in Chechnya".

"This could be the subject of negotiations, and then a treaty on division of competence spheres and powers between the federal state power bodies and the Chechen power bodies can be elaborated," said the Russian vice-premier.

St. Petersburg Mayor Signs Land Sale Directive

MM1011150794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Nov 94 First Edition p 2

[Report by Tatyana Pauk of BMN-PETERBURG News Agency, especially for ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA: "The Land Will Be One's Own"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The mayor of St. Petersburg has signed a directive on the sale of plots of land belonging to privatized enterprises.

This document is of fundamental importance in creating a system to register and dispose of real estate in the city and also in shaping a favorable investment climate.

Hitherto privatized enterprises have effectively only had the right to use the land; their legal rights, according to Mikhail Manevich, chairman of the city administration of the State Committee for the Management of State Property, were set out unequivocally.

The absence of legal rights to plots of land—whether it be one's own or leased—curbed private investment in privatized enterprises. And corporate entities' lack of title deeds for the land was the cause of nonpayment of tax; now the sale contract will constitute just such a document should a plot of land be registered.

The sale of plots of land will speed up the formation of a land register and the creation of a topographical map, including underground structures, and will entail the creation of new normative acts regulating the work of the city real estate market. For enterprises in a disastrous position, selling a plot of land is often the only way to break the economic deadlock.

The prices of land fixed by the mayor's directive fluctuate between 600 million and 2.5 billion rubles [R] per hectare. This will be based on a price of three times' the normative, equivalent to 50 times' the land tax rate. That in turn differs across the 15 zones, varying between R300 and R1,300 per square meter.

Since the sale of plots of land should attract foreign investors, the rules of play will be tailored to fit the models to which foreign entrepreneurs are accustomed. In the West there is the system of insuring title to property. The St. Petersburg Property Fund is currently setting up an insurance company to insure title to property. The founders of the company are, on the Russian side, the Russian and City Property Funds and the St. Petersburg Bank for Reconstruction and Development and, on the Western side, Britain's Lloyds and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Yeltsin Decrees 'Cosmodrome' Status for Plesetsk

LD1411130294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1204 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The test ground of the Military Space Force of the Defense Industry in Plesetsk (north of the European part of Russia) - the only Russian site for launching space probes - received the status of a cosmodrome under a November 11 decree of President Boris Yeltsin.

A spokesman for the force Ivan Safronov told INTERFAX Monday that the new status will not noticeably change the order of running the facility though it will increase its importance in the system of guaranteeing national security and give Russia free access to outer space.

At the moment the cosmodrome is actively working to build new launching pads for Angara heavy rockets which should partly reduce the dependence of the Defense Ministry on the launching complexes for the Proton heavy booster rocket in Baykonur, Kazakhstan, which now is a foreign country. The military believe that such dependence is unacceptable even though the bilateral agreement on leasing Baikonur for 20 years is actually in force.

Besides, in the near future it will become possible to conduct manned launchings with the help of the new Rus booster rocket which will practically lead to the complete independence of the Russian military space program.

The Military Space Force expects a presidential decree to be signed this month on the construction of a new Russian cosmodrome in Svobodnyy-18, the Far East.

Cholmayev Denies Involvement Aliyev Disappearance

LD1011161194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1425 GMT 10 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Ostanin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 10 Nov—Armed units of the Interim Council of Chechnya are not involved in the disappearance of Ramzan Aliyev, head of the republic's Civil Aviation Department, Zayndi Cholmayev,

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head of the Interim Council's administration, told a Moscow ITAR-TASS correspondent over the phone today.

According to a report by the Chechen presidential structures, Aliyev was taken hostage on Wednesday on the Moscow-Baku road by members of the opposition from among Bislan Gantamirov's supporters, who enjoy the support of the population of Urus-Martan Rayon and side with the Interim Council.

According to the head of the Interim Council's administration, Gantamirov, who is in the village of Znamenskoye, is leading the opposition's armed forces and "is in full control of the situation in the units." Cholmayev noted: "The daily military life of the opposition now involves military training of personnel, food and material provision, and also accommodating volunteers who arrive."

Martime Kray Head 'Downsizes' Executive Body

MK1011123094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 10 Nov 94 p 3

[Report from Khabarovsk by Oleg Kryuchek: "Governor Nazdratenko Dismisses His Deputies. Mayor Cherepkov's Case Has Proved To Be a Sham"]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to some reports, Maritime Kray administration head Yevgeniy Nazdratenko has made a decision, so far not issued officially, to downsize the apparatus of the kray executive power structure. The first part of the decision concerns a reduction of the apparatus, which now numbers 920 people, by a mere 90. The second part talks about cutting the number of deputy administration heads from 13 to eight with their subsequent transfer to division chiefs and heads of various departments. Reports from the kray administration confirm the supposition that the decision was made personally by Yevgeniy Nazdratenko, who has distanced himself from his associates and colleagues in the PAKT association (whose activity in its time became a subject of investigation by law enforcement bodies).

Simultaneously with the bureaucratic apparatus reform, which promises to be a scandal, another scandal is brewing in Vladivostok, related to the investigation of a bribery case with respect to city Mayor Viktor Cherepkov, who has been suspended from duty. According to Maritime Internal Affairs Directorate officers, the case, in which Nazdratenko took an active interest, has proved to be a sham, and even now the investigation cannot formulate charges. In the very near future the case will apparently be dropped, and the disgraced mayor will resume his duties. This will mean a new round of confrontation between the city and kray executive structures, which this February ended with the police storming Vladivostok City Hall.

North Ossetia Adopts Constitution, Changes Name

LD1211174194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1700 GMT 12 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vladikavkaz November 12 TASS—The North Ossetian parliament adopted a new constitution on Saturday.

The new constitution restores the republic's old name, Alania. Alans, ancient ancestors of modern Ossetians, lived between the Black and Caspian Seas.

"Experts of the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania, the Russian Federal Assembly and scholars have come to the conclusion that the new constitution does not contradict the fundamental requirements of the constitution of the Russian Federation and meets international law standards," North Ossetian president Akhsarbek Galazov told ITAR-TASS.

Galazov, who is also head of the North Ossetian constitutional commission, said that the work on the draft constitution took almost two years. "The president, the Supreme Soviet, the government and the constitutional commission received about 400 proposals from public organisations, parties, employees, trade unions, intellectuals and ordinary citizens. All of them have been included in the fundamental law of the republic of North Ossetia-Alania," he said.

Explosion 'Blows Up' an APC in Ingushetia

LD1311135694 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] An armored personnel carrier [APC] of the Russian Interior Ministry troops has been blown up in Ingushetia. It has already been established that the APC was blown up by a home-made explosive device with a remote control. There were about 10 kilos of the explosive. The driver got away with a light concussion.

Aushev Requests Investigation of Armed Conflict

MK1211105094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 12 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Maria Eysmont in the "Details" column: "Investigation Into the Causes of the Incident in Ingushetia Continues. The Ingush Side Maintains That Russian Federation Internal Affairs Ministry Officers Were Killed by Their Own"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday Ingushetia Republic President Ruslan Aushev sent a request to Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin to look into the causes of the incident that occurred in the village of Gamurziyevo in Ingushetia's Nazran Rayon 6 November. As a result of an armed conflict two Ingush and three Russian Federation Internal Affairs Ministry

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[MVD] officers were killed, and two civilians wounded. According to the Provisional Administration, the MVD officers were conducting an operation to detain criminals for illegal possession of firearms and drugs; yet witnesses say there were no grounds for detaining the residents.

According to Bilan Khamchiyev, the Ingushetia president's permanent representative in Moscow, the republic's law enforcement bodies conducted a preliminary investigation into the incident which revealed that the MVD officers were in an unsober condition. This was also confirmed by the "external examination" conducted by Ingush experts.

The corpses of the MVD officers were recently handed over to the Provisional Administration in exchange for guarantees of the inviolability of six residents of Nazran Rayon who were detained 6 November and, according to the Ingush side, are in custody in Vladikavkaz.

The autopsy and bullet examination should clarify the situation. Some Ingush representatives are sure that the MVD officers and residents of Gamurziyevo were killed by the same weapon.

Chechen President Blames Moscow for 'Instability'

LD1111165294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1205 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev told Interfax that Moscow's rash and dangerous strategies for the Caucasian region were the main reason for instability in Chechnya. In the long run, Dudayev said, Moscow could destabilize the whole of Russia and that is why its strategies "contradict the vital interests of the Russian Federation," Dudayev said.

In Dudayev's view, Groznyy bore no blame for the tensions in Russian-Chechen relations. Whether rapprochement is possible depends "only on Russia," he said. "The Chechen republic never refused to shake Russia's hand but what it sees is Moscow's fist, not a hand."

According to Dudayev, unprecedented acts of vandalism and terrorism are carried out in the name of a mythical opposition movement in Chechnya. It will be in their own interests if the Russian leaders move, finally, to put an end to this state of affairs, Dudayev said.

Dudayev reiterated Chechya's willingness to open an immediate dialog with Moscow and said that the Chechen republic stood ready to meet any Russian move half-way at any moment to achieve a rapprochement.

Chechen Opposition Expects 'CIS' Arms Supply

LD1311175794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1609 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Chechen opposition is likely to receive a large lot of armored equipment, heavy artillery and aviation from "certain CIS countries," commander of the Provisional Council's armed forces Beslan Gantemirov told Interfax on Sunday after he returned from a trip to a number of CIS countries.

He did not specify, however, which particular countries were ready to provide armaments.

He said that during his trip he found evidence of "complete understanding" of the policies pursued by the Chechen opposition. He also said that the Chechen refugees could count on an early return after the defeat of the Dudayev regime, "whose days are counted."

He announced that over the past three days, subversive groups of the Chechen opposition had destroyed three armored personnel vehicles, one aircraft, one tank and an arms depot belonging to the government troops. At the same time, Gantemirov said that opposition subversive groups had nothing to do with the explosions in administrative and other buildings, as the Groznyy officials assert.

He also said that on November 10, formations loyal to him seized Chechen State Secretary Aslanbek Akbulatov, who was transferred to the Urus-Martan Region. Akbulatov is expected to be exchanged for General Ibragim Suleimenov, a former member of the Chechen parliament, arrested about a year ago for links with the opposition and kept in Groznyy.

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Ukraine

Foreign Minister Udovenko on U.S. Elections

LD1311112794 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Kiev—In the opinion of Ukraine's Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko, expressed in an interview with UNIAN, it is difficult to say so far to what extent the Republicans' victory at the elections to the U.S. Congress will influence Ukrainian-American relations. According to the head of the foreign political department [Foreign Ministry], it is worth paying attention to the composition of the newly elected members of the House of Representatives and the Senate. "The U.S. foreign policy reflects the interests of both the Republican Party and the Democratic Party. We hope that the policy line of the U.S. Congress at least, will not change and will be aimed at developing all-round cooperation between our countries," Hennadiy Udovenko emphasized.

He also pointed out: The fact that electors gave preference to the Republicans is up to the American people and Ukraine should show respect for the results of the elections. [passage omitted]

Kiev, U.S. Company Work Toward Nuclear Safety

MM1111163194 Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 11 Nov 94 p 3

[Unattributed report under "Science and Technology News" rubric: "Danger-Free AES's"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Ukraine has begun developing equipment to ensure safety at AES's [nuclear electric power stations]. The "Khartron" Science-and-Production Association and the U.S. Westinghouse concern have set up the "Westron" joint enterprise in order to perform this task.

In accordance with the agremeent between the Ukrainian and U.S. Governments, the U.S. side is providing financial backing for the new projects. "Westron" specialists are now working on an operator information-support system [sistema informatsionnoy podderzhki operatora]. There are plans to introduce it next year at the Zaporozhye AES. This will be followed by the design of a system to operate the AES reactor shield [proyekt sistemy, kotoraya upravlyayet zashchitoy reaktora AES].

Yakov Ayzenberg, general designer at the "Khartron" Science-and-Production Association, thinks that Ukraine cannot avoid the general problems of the nuclear power industry, hence it has to focus its efforts on ensuring the safe operation of AES's.

Moroz Speaks on NPT Guarantees, National Security

LD1011184994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1808 GMT 10 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Viktor Demidenko and Mikhail Melnik]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev November 10 TASS—"Ukraine will not hamper in the prolongation of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty [NPT]," Ukrainian Parliament Chairman Oleksandr Moroz told a news conference today. However, Ukraine will insist on providing guarantees to ensure its national security, Moroz added.

The parliament chairman said the United States, Great Britain and France had already spoken about such guarantees. That is why Moroz expressed the hope that Ukrainian lawmakers would ratify the Non-Proliferation Nuclear Treaty in the near future. Three parliament commissions had already come in favour of the ratification.

However, the parliament chairman stressed that the Non-Proliferation Treaty was incomplete, adding that NATO Secretary General Willy Claes shared his view. A universal treaty, comprising major provisions of the current one, was expected to be signed in Yalta (the Crimea) next spring.

Boris Oleynik, chairman of the parliamentary Commission on Foreign Affairs and Relations with the CIS, who said there was "much noise" around Ukraine's ratification of the treaty. "The nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty will be ratified. But we must think it over. The treaty is quite often violated by other nuclear states. Therefore, our approach to the issue must be weighted," Oleynik said.

Moroz on Europarliament, Chernobyl, Deputies' Pay

LD1011175894 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1535 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—Europarliament can help provide Ukraine with financial assistance but it will do so on certain conditions, Supreme Council of Ukraine Chairman Oleksandr Moroz said answering a UNIAN correspondent's question about the results of the former's visit to the Kingdom of Belgium. He added that Ukraine's parliamentary delegation to the Europarliament explained its position not as a country begging for assistance but as one that was at the stage of a transitional economy and that needed help for the sake of stability in Europe.

Among conditions placed on Ukraine, in particular, is its accession to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and closure of Chernobyl nuclear power plant [ChAES]. Ukraine's speedier ratification of cooperation agreements with European Union countries and Europarliament was also stipulated.

Oleksandr Moroz said he believed ChAES would go on working.

As for the events of 7 November, Oleksandr Moroz said he was above all concerned with how lawful were actions by both sides, participants in the demonstrations by the

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left-wing and the right-wing. He added that one of the sides failed to act in compliance with the law.

Oleksandr Moroz also announced—himself in receipt of a new salary of 12 million karbovantsi which was set on approval of new sizes of the minimum pay and pension—that he had put forward a proposal for the Supreme Council to look at the issue of people's deputies' taxation starting from October 1994. Deputies' pay at present is exempt from any taxation.

Mukhin on NPT Progress, Kuchma, Military

WS1411122794 Kiev INTELNEWS in English 0303 GMT 13 Nov 94

[Report by Phillipe Coumarianos and Natalia Olynec]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, Nov. 12—Ukraine's lack of trust in White House promises will prevent Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] ratification before President Leonid Kuchma's U.S. visit next week, Parliament's Defense and Security Committee Chair told IntelNews this week.

Officially, Kuchma has refused to link his visit with Ukraine's ratification of the NPT. But Washington has made Ukraine's membership in the NPT one of its major foreign policy goals, and President Bill Clinton hopes Ukraine will join before Kuchma's visit.

"The main reason for Ukraine's reluctance lies in the actions of the United States," said Committee Chair Volodymyr Mukhin, a Socialist Party deputy.

Mukhin accuses Washington of going back on a promise last year to provide US$350 million for dismantling of weapons and defense conversion under the so-called Nunn-Lugar assistance program.

"We did not receive this money. There was talk of US$700 million, but it was not serious. I am surprised President Clinton is such a careless man!" he said. "Now it is going to be much harder to convince our deputies to ratify the NPT. They no longer have faith in American promises. They are saying, 'If (the U.S.) deceived us once they'll do it again.'"

Parliament's nationalists, openly citing a security threat from Russia, have long been staunchly opposed to ratification of the NPT. In a statement addressed to a British Parliament delegation in Kiev last week, the Rukh, Statehood, and Reforms factions said they would vote against the NPT. However, these groups make up only about 60 of Parliament's 392 deputies.

Mukhin, who said he personally favors ratification, nonetheless disagreed with the British delegation's statement that "Ukraine must have the same guarantees as other non-nuclear states." "We are not satisfied with this statement," said Mukhin.

Mukhin said Ukraine is looking for assurances commensurate with its importance as a nuclear power. He repeated the often-heard, thinly veiled, and rarely believed threat that Ukraine could, if it wished, gain control of the nuclear missiles on its territory. "We are today the third-largest nuclear power in the world. Yes, the button is in Moscow, ... but we are clever enough!"

Ukraine wants its inter-CIS borders with Russia and Moldova acknowledged as international, Mukhin said. "Only our westernmost border is truly acknowledged. The other boundaries are not defined."

But Ukraine's demands are at least as much economic as security- related. Leaders say Ukraine's access to international markets, especially in military production, is being blocked.

"Despite the high quality of our (military) production—it is better than Western—the international monopoly controlled by the United States does not want to let us occupy those markets. In this way, they are pushing us back toward the Soviet Union. If the U.S. allows us to sell our weapons on the basis of equal rights—our missiles and our T-84 tanks are the best in the world—we will be satisfied with this type of guarantee," said Mukhin.

Despite this political tug of war with the United States, the nuclear issue is not being stalled. The question is up for discussion in Parliament this Tuesday (Nov. 15). "The problem of (ratification) may be resolved by the end of this year or the beginning of the next," said Mukhin. "As a nuclear physicist, I understand the need for ratification," he added.

National Affairs

Kuchma Issues Land Reform Edict

LD1111220594 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 2000 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has issued an edict on urgent measures to accelerate land reform in the area of agricultural production. It envisages the creation of (?a free choice) by Ukrainian citizens for the equal development of various forms of ownership and management of land, the increase of stimulation to work, and ensuring on this basis that the production of agricultural produce increases.

In particular, it is established that the privatization of lands used by agricultural enterprises and organizations is a pressing and paramount measure in implementing land reform in Ukraine. The transfer of lands to collective and private ownership for production of agricultural produce (?is to be) conducted on voluntary principles, proceeding from the fact that land should belong to those who cultivate it. In connection with this it is recommended that local councils, with the participation of the state committee for land resources, and organizations (?of the land system) take appropriate measures.

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In particular, it is envisaged that each member of an enterprise, cooperative, or society is issued with a certificate for the right to private ownership of a plot of land. It is established that the right to a plot of land or share can be an object of purchase of sale, a gift, an object of barter, a legacy, or an object of a mortgage. Their owners can voluntarily set up joint agricultural enterprises, associations, joint-stock companies, or other cooperative associations. The limit of the total area of a land plot, which may be privately owned by a citizen, should not exceed the norms established by Ukraine's Land Code (?for farms). In accordance with the president's edict, the Cabinet of Ministers should submit to the Supreme Council appropriate draft [word indistinct].

Text of Edict

LD1211202694 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 12 Nov 94

[Edict by President Leonid Kuchma on urgent measures to accelerate land reform in the area of agricultural production]

[FBIS Translated Text] With the aim of creating conditions for the equal development of various forms of ownership and farming, for citizens of Ukraine to have a free choice in this matter, for improved work incentives, and for ensuring on this basis that the production of agricultural output increases, and in accordance with Point 7 of Article 4, and Article 114-115 of Ukraine's constitution, I resolve:

First, to establish that the privatization of land used by agricultural enterprises and organizations is an urgent and paramount measure in implementing land reform in Ukraine, and that the transfer of lands to collective and private ownership for production of agricultural produce be conducted on voluntary principles, proceeding from the fact that land should belong to those who cultivate it.

Second, to recommend that local councils of people's deputies, with the participation of Ukraine's state committee for land resources, take measures to accelerate the free transfer of land, in accordance with land legislation, to collective ownership by collective agricultural enterprises, agricultural cooperatives, and agricultural joint-stock companies, including those created on the basis of state farms and other state agricultural enterprises, of which labor collectives have expressed a wish to become owners of land; that land distribution organizations carry out as quickly as possible the division of land which has been transferred to collective ownership into land plots locally without (?regulation) by barter; each member of an enterprise, cooperative or society is issued with a certificate for the right to private ownership of a plot of land, indicating the number of hectares in this plot, and also a statement of its value.

Third, to establish that the right to a plot of land can be an object of purchase or sale, a gift, an object of barter, a legacy, or subject to a mortgage.

Fourth, to establish that every member of a collective agricultural enterprise, agricultural cooperative and agricultural joint-stock company, has the right to leave it without hindrance and receive gratis into private ownership his plot of land by barter locally, which is attested by a state act for the right to private ownership of land; owners of land plots can voluntarily set up joint agricultural enterprises, associations, unions, joint-stock companies or other cooperative enterprises and organizations on the basis of the land plots belonging to them, bequeath these plots, present them as gifts, exchange them, mortgage them, lease them or sell them to citizens of Ukraine without the designation of the land plots changing; the limit of the total area of a land plot, which may be privately owned by a citizen, should not exceed the norms established by Ukraine's Land Code for farms.

Fifth, to establish that work connected with reforming land relations is urgent and obligatory for scientific research, design and other organizations, irrespective of their form of ownership or departmental subordination.

Sixth, that Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers submits to Ukraine's Supreme Council by 1 January 1995 draft laws on issues of lowering to five percent of the contractual total the state customs duty rate which is exacted when plots of land are purchased or sold; that amendments and additions to Ukraine's Land Code in connection with this decree be made by 15 January 1995; that amendments and additions be made to Ukraine's Civil Code with regard to implementation of the right to a land plot, the bequeathment of land plots, presenting them as a gift, and bartering, purchasing, or selling them by 15 March 1995, with regard to mortgaging and leasing land plots by 1 April 1995; to submit draft edicts of the president of Ukraine on issues of implementing state control over the use and protection of land, the creation of a single state land management service, and the founding of a land bank by 15 January 1995; to elaborate and confirm provisions for dividing up land, which is owned collectively, for the departure of citizens from collective agricultural enterprises and agricultural joint-stock companies, including those set up on the basis of state farms and other agricultural state enterprises, by 15 February 1995; to ensure by 1 March 1995 the elaboration of a methodology of monetary assessment of land; to allocate funds for carrying out work envisaged by this decree; to acquire computer technology, geodesic tools and transport means to ensure that land reform is carried out.

[signed] Leonid Kuchma, president of Ukraine.

Kuchma Speaks on Importance of Armed Forces

LD1311131994 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2200 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev, 12 November—"If we truly count ourselves as a state, then for this state to have a future, we should put aside all of our difficulties. The

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army should come first here," Leonid Kuchma, commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, stated during a trip to a military unit of Belaya Tserkov garrison. The complex economic situation in Ukraine has also affected the defence ministry's budget, which has not been indexed since 1993. With regard to servicemen's living conditions the Ukrainian president believes: "We should review the whole strategy with regard to the Army, so that they are not beggars. I am deeply convinced that the Army has enough of its own forces from weapons sales for most of these funds to be given over to housing construction. We have many weapons remaining from the former Soviet Union, which should be sold. We do not need them. To my great regret, Ukraine practically does not have an end result with regard to weapons output, while the whole world trades in weapons, beginning with the United States. So why can't Ukraine trade? But our military- industrial complex should be developed for producing modern weapons, so that they can be used on the market. In the near future I will be meeting the Defence Ministry's command personnel, and I am preparing thoroughly for this meeting, because I need to stress how we see the military doctrine and the Armed Forces, and what the state needs to do for this." Valeriy Shmarov, vice-premier and defence minister, and military officials accompanied the president of Ukraine and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces.

Moroz Chairs Parliament Proceedings

LD1111161794

[FBIS Editorial Report] Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian at 0800 GMT on 11 November begins live coverage of today's proceedings from the Ukrainian parliament.

Speaker Oleksandr Moroz chairs the session and 311 deputies are present. The proceedings begin with statements by both communist and national-democratic groups, who accuse each other of arm-twisting at yesterday's session when a motion to lift the ban on the Soviet Communist Party was voted down. Speaking in response to the statements, Moroz says the ban will be lifted sooner or later anyway. However, his proposal to resume the debate at the next parliament session after Christmas is rejected. The chairman says the ban would not be discussed again during the present session. Deputies then vote to include in the present session's agenda a proposal to impose a moratorium on ideological debates until May 1995.

Parliament then discusses measures to assist the coal industry. After two hours of deliberation on aid measures for the coal industry, deputies approve at 1000 GMT a law to write off coal enterprise payments, that are in arrears, of earnings tax and contributions to the social security, state employment, and pension funds. The debts are written off as they stood on 1 October.

Later, despite staunch opposition by the parliamentary groups of Communists, Socialists, and Agrarians, the parliament passes what Chairman Oleksandr Moroz describes as a "compromise" resolution put forward and read by Oleksandr Moroz himself:

"The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in conjunction with the Procuracy-General, Anti-Monopoly Committee, the Government of the Crimean Autonomous Republic and Oblast, Kiev and Sevastopol City Councils are instructed to verify compliance with current legislation in the formation of prices for food and other goods on Ukraine's consumer market, hold liable those who have acted in breach of the relevant legislation, and submit for the Supreme Council's consideration on 18 November of this year measures to ensure the population's social security in line with the level of price increases."

On announcement of the passage of the resolution after the vote, Oleksandr Moroz adds the issue was "no longer on the agenda."

Thus, the resolution contains no clause rescinding, or "suspending"—as at one point was proposed by the parliamentary group of Communists—the government's ruling to liberalize prices. The emphasis on verification of compliance with current legislation in price formation relates to claims that in some of Ukraine's regions, in the wake of liberalization, vast profit is being made by illegitimately trading goods at old prices, to be resold at much higher prices on the black market at a later date.

The resolution that was passed earlier in principle, presumably, is rejected, as attempts to vote on it fail because parliament's Communists, Socialists, and Agrarians threaten to boycott any vote after their own motion calling for "suspending" the Cabinet's pricing policy is defeated.

After hearing some deputies' questions on various matters, including one which quotes NEZAVISIMOST Issue 90 of 19 October 1994 alleging there were irregularities in the organization of Moroz's recent visit to the United States, Moroz announces the next parliamentary session is to take place on Tuesday, 15 November. The session concludes at 1310 GMT.

No further processing planned.

Parliament Approves EU Partnership Treaty

LD1111172294 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] After a tense debate on 10 November over the voting down of the motion to lift the ban on Ukraine's Communist Party, parliament adjourned for a short break and resumed its evening proceedings in closed session. [passage omitted]

The Supreme Council approved the ratification of the treaty on cooperation and partnership between Ukraine and the European Community and its member-countries, opening wide prospects for cooperation in Europe.

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Rejects Communist Party Motion

LD1011160594 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 10 Nov 94.

[FBIS Editorial Report] Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian at 1400 GMT on 10 November began a live relay of the afternoon session of the Ukrainian Supreme Council. After a report on the results of a parliamentary enquiry into the 18 October ballot relegalizing the Communist Party, and at least half an hour of bedlam that followed, Ukraine's parliament in a repeat vote rejected the motion to lift a ban on the Communist Party. Parliamentary proceedings were broadcast live by Radio Ukraine World Service. The ballot's lawfulness was protested earlier by the opposition amid claims that a number of votes were cast illegally on behalf of deputies in their absence. A total of 189 votes in favor of lifting the ban today, 10 November, was insufficient, Oleksandr Moroz, chairman of the Supreme Council of Ukraine, announced.

After a representative of the parliamentary procedure committee delivered a report confirming there were violations of voting procedure, Oleksandr Moroz unsuccessfully tried again and again to regain control over the unruly chamber, with a group of deputies apparently blocking the rostrum advocating contending points of view. The vote, however, did take place as Oleksandr Moroz referred to a clause providing for a repeat vote where there were irregularities initially.

More disorder followed and at approximately 1505 GMT Oleksandr Moroz closed the session, which is to resume at 0800 tomorrow.

Communist Party Ban Remains

LD1011214194 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1845 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—Having heard parliamentary committees' conclusions about the vote on the draft resolution "On the Supreme Council of Ukraine Praesidium's Directives Suspending and Banning the Activity of the Communist Party of Ukraine," Ukraine's Supreme Council in a repeat vote on 10 November failed to secure a sufficient number of votes to pass a resolution lifting the ban at the proposal of the parliamentary group of Communists in October. 189 deputies voted for the resolution, while 198 votes were needed for it to be passed.

The vote followed a report by Valentyna Zavalevska, of the Communists' group, who is secretary to the Supreme Council committee for procedure, deputies' ethics, and provision for deputies' activities. She said the committee concluded there were violations during registration and the vote. She added the committee deemed it possible to include the votes in favor of the resolution to relegalize the activity of the CPSU-CPU [Communist Party of the Soviet Union-Communist Party of Ukraine], that were cast in writing after the vote. It was proposed that if this motion was defeated there should be a repeat vote.

Petro Sheyko, the committee's chairman, voiced his personal view as he stated that nine votes were falsified, which was why the resolution was invalid. Interviewed by UNIAN, Petro Sheyko added the committee's so-called conclusion had been made behind his back and the Supreme Council's Secretariat and leadership refused his demand, provided for by parliamentary regulations, to make known to the deputies his own conclusions on the results of the vote.

Parliament also heard a report from the Supreme Council legal policy and judicial and legal reform committee. Volodymyr Stretovych, the committee's chairman, in his speech pointed out the submission of the issue for parliamentary consideration was in breach of procedure. He further said he had lately been under pressure from the left-wing and, in particular, first secretaries of his constituency's Communist Party rayon committees. He added: "One cannot work under the conditions where one cannot protect oneself. If the committee's conclusions are not taken into consideration, I shall be the first to vote to ban the Communist Party in Ukraine."

In the course of deliberations on the subject, representatives of the national democratic parliamentary groups repeatedly blocked the rostrum, while left-wing deputies from their places called out noisily to prevent Petro Sheyko and Volodymyr Stretovych from speaking. There was a threat of physical violence between deputies. After the vote, Communists walked out of the chamber of the sitting and held a joint conference with Agrarians and Socialists, which journalists were asked to leave.

Summing up the results of the debate on the issue, Supreme Council of Ukraine Chairman Oleksandr Moroz said the parliament would not return to it at the second session in the autumn and winter.

Journalist Receives Threats, Beating in Crimea

MM1011115194 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Vladimir Pasyakin under the "Regional News from from Our Correspondents" rubric: "NTV Television Company Journalist Beaten Up"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Simferopol—Viktor Sosnovskiy, cameraman for the NTV Television Company, has been cruelly beaten up in broad daylight right in the yard of his house in the Crimean capital. Viktor was ambushed, and persons unknown fled from the scene of the crime in a Zhiguli. The previous day Sosnovskiy had received an anonymous letter by mail containing threats and a "blacklist" featuring 13 journalists whom the writer of the anonymous letter called "enemies of the Crimean president."

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Belarus

Lukashenka Speaks on Health, CIS

MM1011130594 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 10 Nov 94 p 2

[Interview with Republic of Belarus President Alyaksandr Lukashenka by correspondent Gennadiy Bochkarev in Sochi; date of interview not stated: "Alyaksandr Lukashenka: I Stand Firmly on My Feet"—first paragraph is introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] Republic of Belarus President Alyaksandr Lukashenka has spent 10 days in Sochi. He took the local baths, which cure a mass of illnesses, since the Belarus leader had "something wrong with his back." The treatment has been beneficial. The Belorussian [Belarusian] president looks relaxed and rested. He met with his fellow countrymen at the "Belarus" sanatorium in Sochi and talked with people on every topic and to be honest I was struck by the president's "accessibility."

[Bochkarev] Alyaksandr Hryhoravich, of course you know that when you left the republic, people in Belarus started to say the president was seriously ill, almost bedridden. How do you feel?

[Lukashenka] You know, it is very difficult to confine to bed a man who did not have a day's illness before he was 40. Yes, I had some spinal problems but now, thank god, they are going. It was not the kind of illness that confines you to bed. You can see for your self I am standing normally and, most important, I can work.

[Bochkarev] According to the Belarus constitution if the president is seriously ill his functions pass to the Supreme Soviet chairman. So that you health may be said to be a political question, a question of power, may it not?

[Lukashenka] I can assure you that Lukashenka's functions as president will not pass to anyone before my powers expire.

[Bochkarev] But your long absence from the republic because of illness gives grounds for asking: Who is ruling Belarus today? The vice president?

[Lukashenka] Under the Constitution we have no vice president and no one can fulfill my obligations as president for me. Before I left Minsk (and we spent a week preparing for that departure) I signed all the edicts which had to be signed, appointed the people who had to be appointed. From the political viewpoint the result was a kind of preserved period of time when I could stand back and look at what is happening in the republic.

Our people are keeping close track of the situation locally. And the State Security Committee and the Internal Affairs Ministry are presidential structures.

[Bochkarev] On 8 November the Belorussian [Belarusian] parliament session resumed its work. Draft laws on elections, the cabinet of ministers, and the president are on the agenda. Will these laws be adopted in your absence?

[Lukashenka] No, I think that they will not resolve to examine these very important laws without me. In addition there is a simple lever for influencing the Supreme Soviet—I will not sign that law later and it will have to be approved by two thirds of the parliamentarians. It is not that easy for the president's opponents to collect two thirds of the votes. If parliament embarks on confrontation I do not of course intend to disband it—our Supreme Soviet only has a few months to go until the elections in any case. But if they want to leave the political arena with dignity they must seek ways of cooperating with the president.

[Bochkarev] Do you believe that Belarus needs a social accord treaty like the Russian one?

[Lukashenka] There is no need for it. In Belarus it is an artificially created situation. But if the Supreme Soviet (and I learned this here in Sochi) wants to conclude a treaty on some kind of social accord with someone, then for god's sake let it conclude it. But such problems must be resolved with the president.

[Bochkarev] The first 100 days of your presidency have passed. Have you managed to do a lot?

[Lukashenka] At the elections I promised three things: a fight against inflation and corruption and alliance with Russia and other republics. I am working on each of these avenues.

[Bochkarev] Nonetheless, Belarus has still not entered the ruble zone. Incidentally, did the overwhelming collapse of the ruble on "Black Tuesday" affect the republic?

[Lukashenka] Of course it did. And if such a thing happened in Belarus we would identify by name those specifically to blame and these people would be arrested within 24 hours irrespective of the post they held and irrespective of whether or not they were deputies....

As for the ruble zone we are not against to embarking even now on the unification of the Russian and Belarusian monetary systems on the basis of the principles enshrined in the document signed by the two sides in September 1993. But now Russia does not want this. Indeed, that is only part of a big agreement which we are elaborating with the Russian Federation.

[Bochkarev] But you were quite cool about the last meeting of CIS heads of state in Moscow....

[Lukashenka] You know, I do not like it when people meet and pretend that we are working and signing substantial agreements but not one of those agreements is implemented afterward.

Nonetheless, I unequivocally supported all the initiatives within the CIS framework, even those in which we did

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not previously take part, because so far there is no other form uniting the republics of the former Union. I am ready to support all those who want to become integrated within the CIS framework, those who want to resolve questions within the framework of the CIS. If the answer is yes, then let us resolve the matter! If it is no, then we must say like real men that we shall not resolve anything or engage in anything specific. Then let us travel some other path, for instance within the framework of bilateral agreements. That is the plane on which, to use your term, I spoke coolly of the CIS....

[Bochkarev] But let's return to Belarus. Can the replacement of the government be considered a success for President Lukashenka?

[Lukashenka] Yes, we replaced the government and that replacement is a positive one. Do you know how many enemies I earned? We have a small republic and it was all tied together. Whichever way you turn there is a relation—a brother or son-in-law's father....

We are also tackling the mafia. We have initiated criminal proceedings in 700 cases involving the illegal construction of villas alone. And how many mafia knots have been tied on the Western border? And the question in the republic is a simple one: Who will win? We or the mafia. There is a head-on confrontation. They have gun to make a fuss and there have even been direct threats against the president. The special services once intercepted a couple of conversations between "big-time criminals." They were talking about me: That Ivan the Terrible must be removed. So they were nervous, and that is the first sign that they are dismayed.

Syanko, U.S. Envoy Discuss Bilateral Relations

WS1011125394 Minsk BELAPAN in English 1600 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] As a BELAPAN correspondent was informed at the information department of Belarus' Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on November 9, Foreign Minister Uladzimir Syanko received Kenneth Yalowits, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the United States to Belarus. In the course of the dialogue U. Syanko and K. Yalowits exchanged their opinions about the economic situation in the country, discussed the ways of the subsequent development of bilateral relations in various fields. In particular, they focused their attention on U.S. investments to Belarus' economy.

EBRD Approves Business Development Credits

WS1111155094 Minsk BELAPAN in English 1600 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] According to a message which was received by Belarus' Ministry of Finances from the London-based Headquarters of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the EBRD Managing Board has officially approved credits worth $30 million to Belarus for the development of small and middle business. As it was reported by BELAPAN, the credit will be disbursed in two tranches [as received] 15 million dollars each for 15 years. The credit resources are placed on the government's guarantees under the disposal of the National Bank which is to transfer them to three commercial banks—the Priorbank, Belarusbank and Belbiznesbank. These banks are to select best projects envisaging the establishment of enterprises in various economic fields. In seven years entrepreneurs are to give money back to the commercial banks. The National Bank will have the right to use the resources within the next 8 years. The projects the resources will be given for should cost less than 2 million dollars.

Chyhir Meets With Ministers, Discusses Economy

LD1311181594 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1700 GMT 12 Nov 94

[Address by Belarusian Prime Minister Mikhail Chyhir at a meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers in Minsk on 12 November; Chyhir speaks in Russian]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Buzak] From the first moments, the president of Belarus proposed to all participants to express their view of the situation in the republic. First to speak was Mikhail Chyhir, the head of the Cabinet of Ministers.

[Chyhir] It is somewhat over 100 days since the president of the Republic of Belarus took office and the start of government activity under the president. This is a short period for the hope and expectation of the people and very short for establishing an upturn in the economy. I should like, extremely briefly, to tell you about what the Cabinet of Ministers is engaged in at present. Both the president and the government started work without firm ground under their feet—it was extremely crumbly. To date the manageability of the national economy has been lost to a considerable extent. The state budget has been completely unbalanced. Elementary principles of social justice have been violated wholesale. In overcoming the problems of the formation of its composition, the Cabinet of Ministers at the same time made an analysis and realistically assessed the current state of the economic basis. Proceeding from the complexity of the situation and the prospects outlined, the Cabinet of Ministers worked out a draft program for getting the economy out of the crisis. After certain amendments introduced by the president and by the Supreme Soviet it was adopted for implementation. [passage omitted including indistinct portion]

The amount of money in circulation has a direct effect on inflation processes. To avoid shock therapy and to ensure gradual adaptation of the economy to market conditions, the Cabinet of Ministers and the National Bank envisage a gradual reduction of the infusion of subsidies into the economy. This approach, after difficult negotiations, was approved by the IMF. [Words indistinct] inflation indicators of recent times: August—

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53.4 percent, September—24.4, October—25.7 percent. The introduction of the new minimum wage and the adaptation of prices to it and other factors according to the calculations of the Cabinet of Ministers, will raise the inflation indicator for November to the level of 35-40 percent. If the steps outlined by the Cabinet of Ministers are carried out by the end of the year, inflation will fall in December to a level of 10-15 percent.

A problem that is difficult to solve for the economy of Belarus is a stable energy and supply of raw materials. This is caused primarily by the high energy intensiveness of the national economic complex and the insufficient export potential of our republic to pay for energy resources from Russia. The Cabinet of Ministers is carrying out purposeful work, both to economize on resources and to build up supplies of goods to pay Russia for energy sources.

Strict checks have been instituted on gas, heating, and electricity consumption. As a result of the measures introduced to strengthen payments discipline, the position of payment of debts for electrical and heating energy supplies has improved. In August and September the republic virtually fully paid for current supplies of oil and gas. Sadly, since the beginning of the heating season, with the growth in fuel consumption, our economic potential does not allow us at present to balance Russian supplies with adequate supplies of goods from Belarus. [passage omitted]

Over the past few months there has been a slowing down in the decline in industrial output compared with last year. Whereas in the first half of the year the fall in production amounted to 30 percent compared with last year, in September it was 11 and in October 13, i.e. almost three time less. [passage omitted including indistinct portion]

Over a brief period it is virtually impossible to exert a considerable influence on what is happening in agriculture. The extremely unfavorable weather conditions of the current year have had their effect. However, in this complex situation the president and Cabinet of Ministers are doing everything possible to supply the population with the major types of foodstuffs. The supply plans have been fulfilled as follows: Meat by 79.4 percent, butter by 72, cheese by 100, canned meat by 100, potatoes by 115, vegetables by 98, fruit by 103, grain by 81, [words indistinct], milk powder by 80 percent [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

One cannot but mention the general financial situation in the republic. If the budget problem can be deemed solvable, albeit with difficulty, the problem of local financing are difficult to overcome. So far the subsidies being received go to cover the balance of payments deficit mainly [words indistinct]. The republic needs local sources of finance to carry out investment schemes. It can be confidently stated today that unless we stick to the president's declared course of reforms, then we will not be able to attract foreign credits to start up modern industry and create extra jobs. The Cabinet of Ministers will do everything necessary to achieve that aim. [Words indistinct] the state of prices and pricing policy, which is always perceived extremely painfully. All the problems at this stage are difficult to solve. [passage omitted]

Moldova

Snegur Supports Lebed as Commander of 14th Army

AU1011180994 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2029 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 9/11/1994—"In a joined Moldova, it is very likely that Tiraspol businessmen will be co-opted in the Moldovan Government," Mircea Snegur said in an interview with the Dniester newspaper DNESTROVSKAYA PRAVDA and reprinted in the magazine MOLODEZH MOLDOVY. Our government, said Snegur, is formed from the parliamentary majority according to the criterion of professionalism. According to Snegur, "when the Dniester conflict is settled, of which I have no doubt, it is for sure that some experienced businessmen from Dniester will become members of the Chisinau Government." Asked to express his attitude toward 14th Army commander General Aleksandr Lebed, the Moldovan President declared: "When the question of recalling him arose, I informed Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin of my opinion via an urgent coded telegram warning him about the possible negative consequences that could occur in the region due to General Lebed's being removed from Moldova to another place of duty. The Russian president made the right decision. Now I know that as long as General Lebed stays here, the tremendous amounts of weapons will not reach alien hands."

Official Lists 'Crucial Points' for Dniester Law

AU0911163094 Chisinau INFOTAG in English 1920 GMT 8 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau INFOTAG, 8/11/1994—Moldovan First Deputy Foreign Minister Nicolae Osmochescu, who is heading the Chisinau expert team at the Dniester status negotiations, has named the Dniester knot as one of Moldova's most important problems that needs to be resolved without any delay.

Speaking today at the International Conference on the Principles and Practice of State Organization in Chisinau, he said the expert groups had already held three meetings, with two more scheduled on November 14 and 24.

Osmochescu named three crucial points to be proceeded from in drafting the Dniester status law:

"Firstly, the Republic of Moldova is a territorially integral, independent and sovereign state, the only subject of the international law.

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"Secondly, the juridical basis. We proceed from the new Constitution of the Republic of Moldova that regulates the principal spheres of the state activities.

"Thirdly, the optional basis, which implies, first and foremost, Report No. 13 of the CSCE Permanent Mission in Moldova, and Russian Envoy Vassev's suggestions made on behalf of the Russian Federation."

The initial drafts suggested by both sides were diametrically different, he reminded.

"I hereby state with all responsibility that as soon as at the second meeting the experts' attitudes have rapproched. I am not greatly optimistic about the problem, but I am quite confident that if we manage to work regularly, listen to each other's arguments and to the recommendations of relevant international agencies, we are sure to come to a mutually acceptable draft law," Osmochescu said.

As for the draft's possible structure, he indicated the necessity of a strict division of the sides' plenary powers in the framework of the unified, independent and sovereign state. Such a division should go in three directions: the exclusive competence of the Republic of Moldova, the competence of local power bodies, and the joint competence matters.

The exclusive competence of the Centre must include foreign policy, state security, crime prevention, budget making, and economic system functioning.

In his opinion, the competence of the local power bodies, which must be based on full decentralization, could include the local budget problems, formation of local power bodies, etc.

The joint competence might tackle such matters which would require consultations with all-republican authorities, such as major economic, financial, social and other problems.

After the draft law is shaped and adopted by Parliament, an appropriate transition period shall be necessary, strictly restricted in terms of time and implementation phases.

Delegation Notes Force Reduction Concerns

LD1111214494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1858 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Moldovan delegation within the joint control commission on resolving the conflict in transdniester said today that it was against reducing the peacekeeping contingent in the region without coordinating the issue beforehand.

The press service of the joint control commission told Interfax that during the last meeting of the commission last Wednesday Commander of the Russian Peacekeeping Contingent, Major-General Azat Khachaturov said Russia was ready to reduce its peacekeeping forces from four to two battalions before December 1.

The same source said that such unilateral decision could destabilize the situation in the security zone.

Moldova backed the initiative of Russia concerning the possible reduction of peacekeeping forces conditioning it with demilitarizing the security zone and strengthening the responsibility of the parties for maintaining peace in transdniester.

The joint control commission was created within the scope of implementing the Russian-Moldovan agreement on the principles for settling the transdniesterian conflict of July 21, 1992. The commission includes six representatives from each party, i.e. Moldova, Russia and transdniester.

The Russian peacekeeping forces were brought to transdniester after the military conflict in the summer of 1992. They have nothing to do with the Russian 14th Army stationed in this region.

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Tajikistan

Rakhmanov Visits Leninabad, Outlines Plans

LD1311153894 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 0820 GMT 13 Nov 94

[Speech by Emomali Rakhmanov, Tajik acting president-elect, in Leninabad region on 12 November]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Yesterday morning the head of state, Emomali Sharipovich Rakhmanov, arrived in Leninabad Region. He was met by the chairman of the region's executive committee, Abdujalil Homidov, the mayor of the town [of Khodzhand], Abdulghani Abdullojonov, and other officials at Khodzhand airport. [passage omitted]

In the session hall of the region's executive committee he held a meeting with the heads and chairmen of the executive committees, the heads of farms and the heads of law and order authorities as well as with the region's labor veterans. [passage omitted]

[Begin Rakhmanov recording] Respected friends, the activities of the head of state will be within the framework of my speeches to the people and my election manifesto. [passage omitted]

I should like to tell all the inhabitants of the region, and you, their representatives and activists, that if anybody has anything in his heart let him bring it out and abandon it. There is no rancor, offense or hatred in Rahkmanov's heart. There is nothing there such as revenge. We are all the people of one nation and have one state. Whosoever wants to serve his people, let him arise and say: Let us free our state and society. [passage omitted]

I have said in Dushanbe that the appointment and selection of personnel will not be according to where people come from, and once more I say that they must be capable specialists who can lead. And we must not let ourselves make such mistakes in the high levels, for if we do, it will lead to regionalism by the head of state and government for many years. And if we say a certain percent from here and a certain percent from there, we ourselves will bring regionalism into the law. No let us destroy this. Let officials be specialists and qualified personnel; we do have qualified personnel and good specialists, worthy persons. Let them come and serve their people and homeland. [passage omitted]

All our actions must be within the law. The bodies of law and order are present here. There must not be a single illegal armed man in the whole region, not just Khodzhand. There must be no one! If I find out that a man has weapons and he is free I will punish him strictly. And after the [Supreme Council] session, I will make private bodyguards and so on illegal. And who will protect the ordinary people? On the whole we set a task and over two days they confiscated a tank, two armored troop carriers, and 50 machine-guns from one district. It is too much. We said in some places that we will outlaw existing paramilitary check points in some districts of the republic, and in other places where it is necessary disarmament will not affect them, and in other places between districts .... [sentence as heard]

On the whole the actions of the local administrations in the regions and republic must be within the framework of the law. [passage omitted]

I must say that the time of playing at sessions has passed. And if anybody says: I call a session and appoint this person to the post of the chairman of the region and another to the post of the chairman of the executive committee—No! This must end! The law which we approved—It is written down in the Constitution that the chairmen of the regional and district executive committees will be appointed as a representative of the president and be removed by the president. Enough of confrontation and changing of chairmen etc. This has been approved by the people and neither the supreme council nor the president can change it. [passage omitted]

About one million tons of cotton has not been harvested in Leninabad region yet. And I saw it myself in the fields. I have gone through almost all the districts. It is necessary to harvest it. This is bread, my friends, let us not let the bread be trampled underfoot. We had the practice some years ago to plough and we ploughed the cotton back into the ground. And for three, four, or five years after that we could not reach the target. This is bread and there are no products to export apart from cotton.

Abdujalil Madaminovich Homidov, bodies and districts should be closed. We have set a task to the institutes and they will come out. Even the schools which are close to districts will come out. We have nothing else, my friends, I have quoted the example here of the previous three years when we were about one million tons of cotton short. [passage omitted]

We have to unite and work. Only through honest labor can we work together and get through the difficulties and emerge from these difficult days. I am sure that we will emerge from these difficult days.

Electoral Commission on Results, 'Irregularities'

LD1211124394 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1100 GMT 12 Nov 94

[Statement of the Central Electoral Commission on the election of the president of the Republic of Tajikistan]

[FBIS Translated Text] As the Central Electoral Commission has reported, Emomali Rakhmanov has been elected president of the Republic of Tajikistan as a result of the nationwide presidential elections, which took place on 6 November, 1994. A total of 1,478,759 citizens of the Republic, i.e., 58.32 percent of voters who took part in the election, voted in support of Emomali Rakhmanov.

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However, some news agencies of Russia and other countries who doubt this information, which was obtained on the basis of the protocols of all the 64 constituencies, are claiming that there were irregularities in the elections. In connection with this, the Central Electoral Commission once again would like to point out that the votes of the electorate were counted completely in accordance with the law in the polling stations, constituencies, and on the whole territory of the Republic.

With the exception of 27 polling stations of the constituency in Vanjskiy Rayon and polling stations in the camps of Tajik refugees in Afghanistan where the voting did not take place because of the opposition gangs' resistance, the Central Electoral Commission did not register any irregularities.

Similarly, neither the authorities who nominated the candidates for the post of president of the Republic of Tajikistan nor the observers, and neither foreign observers nor reporters of the news agencies found any shortcomings that could influence the results of the elections. In their opinion, the elections in the Republic of Tajikistan were free and democratic and were held completely in accordance with law.

Taking into account the fact that reports of some of the foreign news agencies do not reflect reality, the Central Electoral Commission considers such claims as their professional incompetence and announces that spreading all kind of rumors about the results of the elections is against the normalization of the sociopolitical situation in our republic.

Russian General Speaks on Ceasefire Agreement

LD1211163694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1446 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Tajik armed opposition, in fact, ignores the agreement on ceasefire along the Tajik-Afghan border and in Tajikistan.

As a chief of staff of the Russian border troops, General Aleksandr Baranov reported in an exclusive interview with Interfax Saturday, Russian border guards have over the last 24 hours curbed several attempts by militants to cross into Tajikistan from Afghanistan.

In his words, the most volatile situation is at the 12 post of Moscow's border unit, where "artillery systems were used" to keep militants from ferrying across the Pyanj border river.

Baranov reported that in the same area, near the Konyayev Cliff, helicopter gun-ships dropped bombs on two groups of militants, shelling Russian border posts.

He also reported that the Russians had suffered no casualties, and "the losses of the militants are being specified."

"We are forced to retaliate to cope with border protection and defence tasks and to guarantee the safety of servicemen and their families," Baranov said.

Afghan Border Situation Remains 'Tense'

LD1111153494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1437 GMT 11 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dushanbe November 11 TASS—Russian borderguards from the Khorog detachment in Tajikistan prevented on Thursday evening an attempt to blow up an automobile bridge on the Khorog-Dushanbe highway in Kalaikhum district of the Pamir. A group of Russian sappers discovered a powerful mine planted under the bridge by unknown terrorists, ITAR-TASS was told today at the press centre of the Russian borderguard troops in Tajikistan.

The Russian borderguards said that the destruction of the bridge could have interrupted indefinitely all traffic on this highway, linking central Tajikistan with the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region. An investigation has been instituted.

According to information released by Dushanbe military sources, the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border remains very tense. An attempt made by two small gangs of Tajik mojaheeds to cross over from Afghanistan to Tajikistan was prevented on Thursday evening by servicemen of the Pyanzh and Moskovsky borderguard detachments. According to the above-mentioned sources, concentrations of Tajik opposition fighters were spotted near the border in the Afghan provinces of Tahor and Badakhshan. Armaments and ammunition are being delivered there. Instructors from several Arab states are known to have arrived in the area.

Tajik special services possess information that Turadjonzada, one of the leaders of the Islamic Revival Movement of tajikistan and former head of the Tajik Moslems, told the "Voice of Free Tajikistan" broadcasting station, located in Afghanistan and beamed to the border areas of the republic, that the "opposition plans to step up hostilities against the Dushanbe regime".

According to information received from Pamir, 27 servicemen of the Tajik Defence Ministry, captured by the mojaheeds in Tavil-Dara District, were delivered, in accordance with Tehran agreements, to Ishkashim, a district centre of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region, where they are to be exchanged for 27 opposition fighters. They are to be handed over to representatives of the International Red Cross. There are no reports on the date and time of the handover.

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Armenia

Ter-Petrosyan, Butrus-Ghali Seek Baku-Karabakh Dialogue

MM1411094094 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Nov 94 p 1

[Report by Boris Mkrtchyan: "Butrus-Ghali: 'Dialogue Is Needed'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yerevan—After the end of the official part of his three-day visit to Yerevan, UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali and Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan held a press conference. Answering journalists' questions about the Karabakh problem, the UN secretary general said that while in Baku he had not spoken of the "need to withdraw Armenian troops from Azerbaijani territory," still less did he call Armenia an "aggressor country," as Azerbaijani and certain Western mass media are claiming today. "That was not and could not be the case," Butrus-Ghali stated, "since these terms are not contained in the relevant Security Council resolutions, and I used only the terminology used in those documents."

Asked by journalists what the Armenian president thinks about the conflicts among the mediating parties in the matter of a peaceful settlement to the Azerbaijani-Karabakh conflict, L. Ter-Petrosyan replied that Russia and the CSCE are both making the same mistake: Without submitting their own peacemaking program to the conflicting parties, they are trying to obtain their consent to participation in the peacemaking process. It would be better if Russia and the CSCE agreed among themselves and submitted a single document as mediating parties.

The Armenian president also stated that the Karabakh conflict cannot be resolved until there is a direct dialogue between Baku and Stepanakert. On this point Butrus-Ghali noted that the United Nations would welcome such a dialogue, since it would undoubtedly provide an opportunity to commence paece talks. And at that stage of the peacemaking process the United Nations could participate and give the people of Karabakh political guarantees of security.

Ter-Petrosyan Meets CSCE Minsk Group Chairman

LD1211185894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1713 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chairman Anders Burnur of the Minsk group of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan closed talks in Yerevan Saturday [12 November].

Burnur told newsmen that they focused on a ceasefire for the self-proclaimed Karabakh republic and "a whole gamut of related political issues."

On November 15 he will be planning to visit Moscow where the Minsk group is to discuss the introduction of a peacekeeping contingent in the troubled area.

Friday evening in Stepanakert Burnur met with chairman Robert Kocharian of the Karabakh Defense Committee and the acting chairman of the Karabakh parliament Karen Baburian.

The Press and Information Department of the Karabakh republic told Interfax that Burnur, Kocharian and Baburian discussed further moves for the solution of the Karabakh conflict, in particular moves to build a multinational disengagement force which is to be deployed in the disputed area, and the exchange of internees.

Commitment to Karabakh Cease-Fire Praised

LD1311183594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1748 GMT 13 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan November 13 TASS—Anders Burnur, newly-appointed head of the CSCE Minsk group for Nagorno-Karabakh, and Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan met on Sunday [13 November] to consider the possibility of expanding the current cease-fire agreement for the Nagorno-Karabakh enclave by taking confidence-building measures.

The Swedish diplomat ended today his short-term visit to the Armenian capital. Speaking to journalists at the close of this visit, he praised Armenia for its commitment to the cease-fire agreement.

According to Burnur, the CSCE Minsk group maintains close contacts with Russia. We have a joint proposal on extending the cease-fire agreement, he told reporters.

Speaking about the proposed peacekeeping mission in Nagorno-Karabakh, the Minsk group head noted that the overwhelming majority of the CSCE member-countries, which might contribute to peacekeeping troops, provided a positive response.

We would like Russia to play a major role in these proposed forces, the diplomat said, adding that it had not yet given an ultimate answer. Burnur expects to discuss this issue during his visit to Moscow next week. According to him, the Minsk group was still unaware of how much contribution other CSCE countries were going to make. Even the exact strength of troops required for the peacekeeping mission is unknown so far.

When in Yerevan, Burnur also met ambassadors of the Minsk group member-states to Armenia.

Later in the day, the Minsk group head left for the Azeri capital Baku. He declined to give any details about his further actions.

President Receives Russian Border Troop Commander

NC1111214494 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1900 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan today received the commander of the

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Russian Border Troops, Colonel General Andrey Nikolayev. Here is a report by Grigor Geuzelian.

[Begin Geuzelian recording] The joint protection of the CIS' southern borders comes mostly under the purview of those countries with borders there, primarily the Armenian state authorities. As such it forms the nexus of the talks between Russia and Armenia.

Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan today received the commander of the Russian Border Troops, Colonel General Andrey Nikolayev.

In his brief statement to correspondents, the commander of the Russian Border Troops briefly outlined the results of his talks in Baku, Tbilisi, and now in Yerevan in connection with the aforementioned issues. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Reopening of Nuclear Power Plant Assisted

LD1411102294 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Russian experts are continuing to help Armenia with the demothballing of the Armenian nuclear power station. The latest stage in this cooperation is the arrival in Yerevan of a delegation from the Russian State Committee for Supervision of Nuclear and Radiation Safety.

According to Yuriy Vishnevskiy, head of the delegation, the station's pipelines are now being fully monitored. The Russian expert believes that after the hydraulics have been checked the Armenian nuclear power station's second power generating unit will be ready for start-up.

The Armenian deputy prime minister said that the Armenian nuclear power station would be opened on the condition that its operation is absolutely safe.

Armenian-Azerbaijani Talks on Karabakh Resume

NC1011162794 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0651 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan ("YERKIR" daily—NOYAN TAPAN), 11/10/94—A regular stage of negotiations on resolution of the Karabakh conflict started in Moscow today.

The Armenian delegation is headed by RA [Republic of Armenia] Deputy Foreign Minister Eduard Zuloyan, the Azeri delegation—by Deputy Foreign Minister Tofik Zulfugarov. Deputy Chairman of the CSCE Minsk Group Pier Anderman will participate in the negotiations too. The sides are planning to continue discussion of the Grand Political Agreement.

Azerbaijan

CSCE Minsk Group Delegation Arrives

Received by President

NC1011182194 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Republic President Geydar Aliyev received today Anders Burnur, chairman of CSCE Minsk Group.

[Begin correspondent Nermine Elikhanbeyli recording] In assessing CSCE activities of late, the Azerbaijani president stated that a step forward at this stage is a necessary condition for the achievement of peace in the region. The Minsk Group of this international organization, which brings together more than 50 countries, has now reached a stage of taking measures that would produce positive results. At this point, the Azerbaijani side's compromises and constructive position constitute a basis for further progress.

CSCE Chairman Burnur announced an auspicious new development, which is that peacekeeping forces are being formed within the organization, thus implying an assumption of responsibility. Yet, some forces do not—do not—want to accept a CSCE presence in the region. According to Anders Burnur, the CSCE is loyal to its own principles and is not doing this to gain political (?dividends), because the existence of this organization in the newly emerging Europe is very important. A strong CSCE contributes to the security of the small states and the maintenance of peace in inter-state relations. Hence, the CSCE Minsk Group is interested in speeding up the resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and considers the Azerbaijan Government's participation in the confidence-building measures to be imperative, given that it is involved in the conflict.

The guest then said the oil agreement was a sign of the Republic's sovereignty and cooperation with the international community.

The Azerbaijani president note that in time the CSCE should actively move to the next stage [of the Karabakh talks] and the efforts by the major powers should be implemented within the CSCE framework. Azerbaijan is ready for political cooperation and economic integration with other countries. This is not mere talk, but a practical objective. [end recording]

Aliyev Satisfied With 'Specific Steps'

LD1011195194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1631 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev has expressed his satisfaction over the intensified activities of the CSCE Minsk Group for Nagorno-Karabakh settlement saying individual countries' peace initiatives must be implemented within its framework.

Aliyev told Minsk Group Chairman Anders Burnur in Baku Thursday [10 November] that he was satisfied with the CSCE's "specific steps" in forming a peacekeeping force.

Burnur told Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Gasan Gasanov later this afternoon that he had arrived in the Caucasus to discuss measures to extend a cease-fire in the conflict area enacted on May 12 and the whole range of issues concerning the creation of a CSCE peacekeeping force.

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During the meeting, Gasanov blamed Armenia for delaying the resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh issue in order to block the influx of foreign investments in Azerbaijan.

Burnur is expected to leave for Yerevan via Nagorno-Karabakh later this evening and return to Baku on November 13 to meet the president, parliamentary speaker, defense and foreign ministers. On November 15, Burnur will leave for Vienna via Moscow.

Foreign Minister Receives Delegation

NC1011205494 Baku TURAN in English 1006 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku (November 10) TURAN: Today Azerbaijan's Foreign Minister, Gasan Gasanov, received the CSCE delegation at the head of acting Chairman of the Minsk Group, Anders Burnur.

In his opening speech Mr. Burnur said that this time he is optimistical about the settlement of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict since he has brought a broader programme. "I think you will get interested in it", Mr. Burnur said. However, he did not reveal his plans in presence of journalists.

"I understand Azerbaijan's difficulties in socio-economic sphere. The western entrepreneurs are interested in investment of capital in Azerbaijan's economy, however, distability in the region scares them", Anders Burnur said.

Gasan Gasanov said that Azerbaijan negotiates to settle the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict and to liberate its lands. "Armenia artificially delays peaceful talks and itself creates obstacles for final settlement of the conflict. West must understand it and take appropriate measures towards Armenia", Gasan Gasanov said.

Speaking about formation of the CSCE peace-keeping forces and their deployment in the conflict zone, Gasan Gasanov said that Azerbaijan and Armenia may have disagreements, but the CSCE must solve this problem using its own efforts.

Then the meeting passed behind the closed doors and Gasan Gasanov said that they discussed the details concerning deployment of peace-keeping forces in the conflict zone.

On November 11 the CSCE delegation consisting of 4 diplomats and 4 military experts is leaving for Yerevan. On November 13 they are due [item incomplete as received]

Guliyev Receives CSCE Delegation

NC1011182394 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Report by Gulsefa Ahmedova]

[FBIS Translated Text] Supreme Soviet Chairman Rasul Guliyev received Anders Burnur, the chairman of the CSCE Minsk Group. The strengthening of the CSCE's activity in the conflict zone was discussed in detail.

Noting the positive role of the international organizations in the peaceful solution of the Karabakh problem, the parliament chairman noted that Azerbaijan expects detailed information on countries that will contribute to the formation of the CSCE peacekeeping force.

The Minsk Group's activity in the solution of the Shusha and Lachin problem was also discussed.

Burnur said that 15 countries have replied to the request to form a CSCE peacekeeping force. Some 12 of them responded positively, stating that they will help to implement this auspicious mission in varying degrees.

Aliyev Receives Russian Border Troop Commander

NC1011204994 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1920 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Report from a "special newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev today received Colonel General Andrey Nikolayev, the commander of the Border Troops of the Russian Federation.

The protection of the state border between Russia and Azerbaijan, state borders in the Caspian Sea, and issues relating to Azerbaijan joining the memorandum on the protection of state borders in Transcaucasia were discussed. [passage omitted]

Russian Ambassador to Azerbaijan Valter Shonia, acting National Security Minister Namik Abbasov, State Adviser Nureddin Sadykhov, and Border Troop Commander Abbas Ali Novruzov took part in the meeting.

More on Meeting

NC1111160194 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1300 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev today received Colonel General Andrey Nikolayev, the commander of the Border Troops of the Russian Federation, who is on a brief visit to our Republic.

[Begin correspondent Akif Kurbanov recording] Andrey Nikolayev said during the meeting that this visit is connected with the agreement to be signed by the heads of state of the Union [CIS] on the protection of the CIS' external borders and aims at gathering comprehensive information on issues relating to safeguarding the collective security of the Caucasus. He noted that the Russian leader expects close bilateral cooperation on safeguarding the collective security of the Union countries.

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As for the bilateral cooperation, Andrey Nikolayev said that the pertinent document favored by the presidents of the two countries is ready to be initialed and could be signed at the high-level meeting to be held in Almaty in December of this year.

The commander of the Russian Border Troops stated that issues relating to cooperation in protecting the Caspian Sea were discussed with the officials of the relevant Azerbaijani bodies during his current meeting. A package of documents on bilateral technical cooperation involving border services was also examined.

Indicating that he is positively disposed toward developing bilateral cooperation on border services, the Republic's president indicated that some characteristics of the Republic and difficulties it faces arising from the war with Armenia should be considered. [passage omitted]

State Adviser Nureddin Sadykhov, Russian Ambassador to Azerbaijan Valter Shonia, and other officials took part in the meeting. [end recording]

Border Protection Agreement Signed

LD1211190194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1713 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Azerbaijan initialed an agreement on border protection with Russia which had been drafted when Andrey Nikolayev, head of the Russian Federal Border Guard Service, visited that country.

General Abasali Novruzov, commander of the Azerbaijani border guards, told Interfax that the agreement provided for cooperation in protection of the common border and cooperation between services such as customs, emigration and intelligence.

Novruzov said that Azerbaijan might join the CIS External Border Protection Treaty at the CIS summit to be held in Almaty late in December. But first, he emphasized, "the consequences of the Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan must be dealt with." In particular, he said, Azerbaijan must regain control over the 130 kilometers stretch of the Azerbaijani-Iranian border now occupied by Armenia.

Aliyev Receives Iranian Petroleum Minister

NC1111160294 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1300 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev today received Iranian Petroleum Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh-Kho'i.

[Begin correspondent Nermina Elikhanbeyli recording] Opportunities exist to develop Azerbaijani-Iranian relations and these should be used productively. This view expressed at the meeting reflected both sides' desires and plans.

Informing Aqazadeh of the objective reasons for Azerbaijan's failure to fulfill some interstate agreements, Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev said that the deplorable war and the enemy's control of a considerable amount of our land, including the border, are factors contributing to our grave economic situation. Azerbaijan hopes to overcome these difficult days with the help of the neighboring and friendly countries and is interested in forging closer relations with Iran, which has provided great humanitarian assistance to date, including help with the issue of oil production and export. From this perspective, the Caspian Sea is a suitable place for joint activity.

Geydar Aliyev also expressed the view that they will tolerate no effort to harm Azerbaijani-Iranian ties.

Petroleum Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh-Kho'i declared that Iran will continue to show an interest in Azerbaijan's anxiety and will exert efforts to consolidate economic ties. As happened last winter, Iran will provide Nakhichevan with fuel and gas this year too. His words demonstrate that Iran shows caring toward neighboring Azerbaijan. [end recording]

Baku, Tehran Discuss Oil Cooperation

LD1011185694 Tehran IRNA in English 1814 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku, Nov. 10, IRNA—Azeri Parliament Speaker Rasul Guliyev in a meeting with Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh-Kho'i here Thursday [10 November] announced his country's readiness to cooperate with Iran in the oil sector.

The two sides at the meeting held talks on ways of Tehran-Baku cooperation in exploration and exploitation of oil in the Caspian Sea fields.

Later today, the expert groups of the two countries exchanged views on the quality of bilateral cooperation in area of oil.

Aqazadeh-Kho'i arrived here for two-day official visit on an invitation by Azeri President Geydar Aliyev.

Foreign Ministry Denies Oil Export Route Defined

LD1111190194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1600 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The route for a pipeline which is to ensure the export of Azeri oil to Western Europe has not yet been determined, Azeri President Geydar Aliyev said during his recent private visit to Ankara.

A senior official of the Azeri Foreign Ministry told the Petroleum Information Agency that by his statement Aliyev "refuted numerous allegations by Turkish news media to the effect that the decision about the construction of a pipeline from Baku to the Mediterranean port of Ceyhan had already been taken."

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Turkey is very much interested that the Azerbaijan-Europe pipeline be laid on its territory. Ankara is carrying out an active campaign for supporting the project. However, according to Aliyev, the route for supplies of the Azeri oil to Mediterranean terminals will be defined by the international consortium after it examines different possible routes for the pipeline.

He said that the sharp statement by the Azeri president in Ankara is conditioned by Turkey's active lobbying of the idea for the creation of a so-called Inter-Turkic Energy Agency with headquarters in Istanbul or Izmir. The organization, believes Ankara, will help to create the necessary economic conditions for cooperation among Turkish-speaking states in the sphere of energy under Turkey's patronage.

The diplomat believes that the idea of the creation of an Inter-Turkic Energy Agency contains nothing positive in terms of the solution of Azerbaijan's urgent problems, including the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh, and will undoubtedly introduce new elements which do not contribute to the development of relations with Moscow, believes the source.

He also believes that the implementation of the idea "may also cause a negative reaction in other countries-exporters of energy and such organizations such as the OPEC and the OAPEC in whose cooperation Baku is interested."

Turkish Petroleum Official on Caspian Oil

TA1211124194 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 2110 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Yavuz Dalogullari video report from Baku]

[FBIS Translated Text] Sitki Sancar, director general of the Turkish Petroleum Corporation [TPC], has declared that there are no differences of opinion so far regarding the transportation of oil from the Caspian Sea to the Mediterranean via Turkey.

[Begin Dalogullari recording] Sancar said he came to Baku to sign certain arrangements concerning the 20 September agreement on the drilling of Caspian Sea oil by an international consortium. Pointing out that during his visit to Baku, he met with the president of the Azerbaijani state oil company and other officials, Sancar remarked that there are no problems with regard to the work on the agreement. Sancar reported that the firm that will conduct the work will officially begin its activities as soon as the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet ratifies the agreement. Sancar explained that the subject of the pipeline to used for transporting Caspian Sea oil to the consumer will then be raised and that a meeting will be held in Baku on this issue on 24 November.

Sancar reported that the oil produced abroad by the TPC time will be transported from Kazakhstan to Turkey for the first time next week. He added that next year, the TPC will produce approximately 3 million tonnes of oil abroad, generating an income of $700 million. [end recording]

Georgia

Chernomyrdin's Visit Postponed; Issues Settled

LD1111174194 Tbilisi CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY in Russian 1545 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Tbilisi [no date as received]—An official visit to Georgia by Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin planned for today, 11 November, has been postponed until a later date because a number of urgent issues expected to be discussed during the visit have already been settled in Moscow by a Georgian government delegation.

Russian-Georgian Border Troop Cooperation Signed

LD1211125094 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0800 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Georgian Premier Otar Patsatsia yesterday met Andrey Nikolayev, commander of the Russian Federal border troops. The meeting was attended by Georgian Deputy Premier Tamaz Nadareishvili; Georgian Security Service Director Igor Giorgadze; Georgian Border Troop Commander Major General Valeri Chkheidze; and Vladimir Zemskiy,Russian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Georgia.

The participants in the meeting discussed cooperation between the border troops of the two countries. As a result, Andrey Nikolayev and Valeri Chkheidze signed a protocol on the personnel training and exchange of information concerning the state borders. Another protocol, on search and investigation activities, was signed by Andrey Nikolayev and Igor Giorgadze.

Georgian Delegation Optimistic for Geneva Talks

LD1211171094 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1210 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A Georgian delegation led by Jaba Ioseliani is leaving for Geneva today [12 November]. The delegation includes Zurab Erkvania, the chairman of the Abkhazian Council of Ministers, and Irakli Machavariani, the chairman of the commission for determining Abkhazia's state status.

Apart from the return of the refugees and protection of human rights, the agenda of the forthcoming quadripartite meeting includes the issue concerning the status of Abkhazia. Incidentally, Machavariani regards the discussion of Abkhazia's status as unreasonable until the status quo of 12 August 1992 is restored in Abkhazia. Speeding up the return of the refugees to Abkhazia and ceasing ethnic cleansing of Georgians should be the principal subjects at the talks. It is probable and expected

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that the Abkhazian party demand to establish relations on the basis of a confederative structure according to which the two sovereign states will elect an advisory council as a supreme body of power. This version is unacceptable for us, Russia, and the United Nations. The Georgian party consents to the form of Abkhazia's status, which does not and will not endanger Georgia's territorial integrity.

Neither did a version of the Abkhaz-Georgian settlement drafted by Russia and the United Nations find supporters at the closed sitting of the Georgian Parliament. In addition to the opposition, some representatives of the majority spoke against the version. [passage omitted]

For his part, Ioseliani, the leader of the Georgian delegation, is still optimistic. He says that a realistic stand taken by Georgia supports this optimism. We have a simple formula that has been approved by all the resolutions: Preservation of Georgia's territorial integrity. Only a formal registration of the quadripartite agreement is required. [passage omitted]

Russian Role Praised in South Ossetia

LD1311224294 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1800 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The CONTACT news agency has sent us information from the head of state's press secretariat that today, 13 November, Eduard Shevardnadze, the chairman of parliament and head of state received a government delegation from North Ossetia led by First Deputy Prime Minister Georgiy Kozayev, with Teymuraz Shusov, the chairman of the interethnic relations committee and Anatoliy Kasmazov, the head of the migration service under the republic's Council of Ministers.

A detailed examination was held of the problems facing both sides in connection with the work of the mixed control commission for South Ossetian settlement. The commission will meet in Vladikavkaz on 22 November. The meeting will work out plans for the commission's future work and set up working groups to deal with the pressing problems [words indistinct] of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict.

The North Ossetian delegation visited several villages in Georgia from where Ossetian citizens had been displaced. Delegation members told Shevardnadze about their impressions after this visit. It was agreed that the return of Georgian and Ossetian refugees should happen at the same time.

At the end of the meeting hope was expressed that in the near future it would be possible to restore ties between the two peoples.

Shevardnadze and Kozayev stressed that at present the Russian peacekeeping forces were undoubtedly playing a positive role in easing tension and establishing peace.

Present at the meeting were Vladimir Zemskiy, the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to Georgia, Vazha Khachapuridze, the head of state's representative to the Shida Kartli region [South Ossetia], and other officials.

Edict on Protection of Government Officials

LD1311220094 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1800 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] We present to you the head of state's decree on the list of persons and installations to be protected by the Government Guard Service of the Republic of Georgia and on improving bodyguard protection.

1. Clause Two in the Georgian head of state's Decree No. 18 of 20 August 1994 on the list of persons and installations to be protected by the Government Guard Service is to be expanded to include the buildings of the Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Georgian Television and Radio Corporation, the Georgian Control Chamber, and the central level [as heard] of government summer houses in Tskneti. The new version of the abovementioned list is to be as follows:

a. The persons to be protected are the head of state, the speaker of parliament, the deputy speakers of parliament, the prime minister, the deputy chairman of the Emergency Coordinating Commission, the deputy prime ministers, the katalikos-patriarch of Georgia, the chairman of the Supreme Court, the procurator general, the minister of internal affairs, the minister of defense, the head of the State Security Service, the minister of foreign affairs, the mayor of Tbilisi, the heads of foreign states visiting Georgia, delegations from foreign countries, representatives of international organizations, senior foreign businessmen, and other important persons;

b. The installations to be protected are the buildings of the Georgian parliament, the cabinet of ministers, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Television and Radio Corporation, the Control Chamber, the Tsinandali, Krtsanisi, Vartsikhe, and other government guest houses, the central level of government summer houses in Tskneti, and the houses and country houses of the head of state and the prime minister.

2. All previous resolutions issued by the Georgian head of state and the cabinet of ministers concerning the protection of persons and installations included in the present list and of other persons are declared void.

3. With the aim of improving bodyguard protection, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Security Service, and the Government Guard Service are to implement effective measures against illegal bodyguard teams and to prevent the unlawful activity of persons involved in these teams.

4. I hereby entrust:

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a. The Government Guard Service to introduce appropriate changes in the structure and personnel [word indistinct] of the Government Guard Service.

b. The Finance Ministry to ensure that the Government Guard Service is financed in accordance with the abovementioned changes and at the expense of the reduced financing of other agencies.

Premier's Edict on Power Rationing in Tbilisi

LD1011175294 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1500 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] KONTAKT NEWS AGENCY reports that Georgian Premier Otar Patsatsia has issued an edict stating as follows:

In compliance with the No. 267 decree of the Georgian head of state, the city of Tbilisi shall be provided with electric power according to the following schedule:

The population shall be supplied with electric power from 0700 to 0900 and from 1900 to 2400. Power supply to the population shall be cut off from 0900 to 1900 and from 2400 to 0700.

Georgian television shall operate from 0700 to 0900 and from 1800 to 2400.

The schedule shall be in force as of the day the present edict is been issued.

The personal responsibility for the implementation of the edict shall be assumed by Tbilisi deputy Mayor, Kapanadze, and the director of Sakenergo [Georgian power production and consumption] department, Chedia.

Joint Tbilisi Sea 'Preventive Operation' Launched

LD1211214694 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1950 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Colonel Valerian Gogolashvili, the head of the press center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, has told us that, on the instructions of Head of State Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian Defense and Internal Affairs Ministries and the Security Service jointly carried out a preventive operation at the Tbilisi Sea [artificial lake on outskirts of Tbilisi] today aimed at bringing various armed formations deployed in the vicinity of the Tbilisi Sea under a single state structure.

As is known, there is a so-called Tbilisi Sea syndrome. It is not rare for individuals or political groupings to try to use these forces to achieve their political goals. In order to avoid possible destabilization, the three power structures carried out an appropriate operation. In particular, according to an order from Georgian Defense Minister Lieutenant General Vardiko Nadibaidze, the 1st assault landing battalion was placed under the authority of the interior troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

A training center of the Ministries of Defense and Internal Affairs and the Security Service will be set up on liberated territory.

The battalion's personnel have expressed readiness to serve faithfully within the ranks of the interior troops.

Taking part in the abovementioned operation were Internal Affairs Minister Shota Kviraia, Security Service Head Igor Giorgadze, Deputy Defense Minister Tamaz Dumbadze, and Nodar Tatarashvili, chief of the General Staff.

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Estonia

Foreign Minister's Council of Europe Address

WS1011150094 Tallinn Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Release in English 1145 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Speech by Foreign Affairs Minister Juri Luik to the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers meeting in Strasbourg on 10 November—received via Internet E-LIST]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mr. Secretary-General, Mr. Chairman, Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure to be here again in Strasbourg to see old friends and some new faces. We congratulate the Principality of Andorra on its accession today and welcome Andorra into our midst.

Today is special day for Estonia as well. Today, for the first time, my country stands before this forum free of foreign troops on our soil. The moral support that the Council of Europe has displayed on this issue beginning in 1960 and continually throughout the most recent years played no small role in helping achieve this goal. For this reason, it is a special privilege to be able to represent my country here today.

Mr. Chairman,

During the informal part of our meeting this morning, we discussed at length the political aspects of continued Council of Europe expansion. I would at this point like to add Estonia's thoughts on some of the organizational implications of enlargement discussed in the report drawn up by the Ministers' Deputies.

Our common cultural and historical heritage unites those of us in this room. It is this common heritage that gives birth to the shared values we hold in such high regard in this Council. We in Estonia believe strongly in maintaining and strengthening of those values in potential member states. We worked hard to bring our legislation and implementation procedures into compliance with the standards of the Council and we continue to do so. We encourage others to do the same. It is not for the Council of Europe to alter its standards, but for would-be members to change their approach, to become consistent with objective standards.

The choice we face is simple. We can either decide to lower standards to fit subjective conditions, or we can maintain those standards to the ultimate benefit of European values. Estonia's position on this point is clear. We believe the Council must be careful to apply human and civil rights standards non-selectively. There can be no exceptions because of size or geographical location, because of cultural heritage or history, because states are in transition or because the political situation is delicate. The standards that are applied to one must be valid for all other Council of Europe states. In other words, there can be no rubber rulers.

One a more technical note, allow me to address the idea of increased cooperation between the Council of Europe and other organizations. As a small state with a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility, Estonia wholeheartedly supports increased coordination among complementary bodies as a way to avoid duplication of effort. Another advantage of increased cooperation is bolstered credibility for the Council. If the CSCE and the Council begin to exchange better and more timely information, if these organizations take into account more fully the work done by others, then every organization will be regarded with the respect it deserves. In fact, I believe that ignoring the efforts of others could inadvertently undermine the credibility of various bodies and posts, such as special commissioners, which have been created by those bodies.

Finally, increased cooperation also follows a certain political logic. We share the view of others in this room that when Russia meets the requirements of being a democratic state that honours human rights, it should join the Council as a full-fledged member. At this time, the Council of Europe possesses limited means to help potential new members meet those standards, relative to organizations such as the United Nations and the CSCE. For this reason, we should utilize more fully the principle of comparative advantage and cooperate with those organizations which are currently better placed to provide assistance to potential Council members. Such a strategy will lead us more effectively to our goals.

This leads me to the next organizational point to which you, Mr. Chairman, refer in your Non-Paper as the means and resources we might use to achieve or strengthen the standards necessary for accession. In speaking just now of the Council's ways of helping potential member-states bring their performance up to standard, I used the word "limited" on purpose. Our mechanisms are limited compared to those the United Nations and the CSCE enjoy, but we have by no means exhausted the Council's possibilities. Estonia supports the establishment of an even more energetic pre-accession strategy for would-be members, including more legal expertise for getting laws in order, more practical instruction in implementing those laws, more seminars and workshops on the role of the judiciary in law-based states, and so forth. We speak from experience—this was helpful in our preparations to join, and we are convinced it will help others. All of this will cost more money, but a stronger pre-accession program will ultimately work to our benefit, as would- be members will already be in a position to abide by the rules of the game once they join.

I have one more comment on accession, and that concerns timetables. We in Estonia were gratified to learn that our neighbour to the South will most likely join us next January. Through this move, the Council will acknowledge what we have recognized for some time:

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that Latvia's legal system is based on universally recognized principles of justice and that Latvia is a democratic state which honours and fully respects human rights.

Estonia also supports the view that there are other Commonwealth of Independent States whose potential membership deserves the same careful attention focused on the Russian Federation. I am speaking here of Ukraine. This state has achieved substantial progress in the theory and praxis of establishing democratic institutions. These efforts deserve to be recognized by the Council.

Mr. Chairman,

Estonia has a brief comment on the monitoring procedures that have been discussed here. We support regular and automatic monitoring of Council standards for all members. We believe that an element of automaticity rather than a weak triggering mechanism will help both assure compliance and avoid skewing this monitoring procedure, which should be technical, rather than political in nature.

Mr. Chairman,

I would close by thanking the European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance for its energetic efforts over the past year. We support further development of the Declaration and Plan of Action that came out of the Vienna Summit last year, and we are working on ways to implement the European Youth Campaign envisaged in that Plan.

As a point of information, Mr. Chairman, I would note that in Estonia's specific situation, racism is not a day-to-day concern for us. Racism and intolerance instead grow out of a hatred for foreigners, a hatred which carries over into foreign policy. After repeated news reports and endless official pronouncements, even rationally thinking people will begin to believe, for instance, that foreigners are responsible for leaks in oil pipelines, that foreigners are responsible for the spread of AIDS and for a decline in the value of the national currency. After a while, all that is foreign or comes from a foreign country becomes synonymous with harmful and dangerous tendencies. This phenomenon we know as xenophobia is just as harmful as racism. For this reason, Estonia is gratified that the fight against xenophobia is also an important component of the Declaration and Plan of Action that has grown out of the Vienna Declaration.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Outgoing Government Decree Conforms With Treaty

WS1011134394 Tallinn BNS in English 1625 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tallinn, Nov 09, BNS—Estonia's previous government has issued a decree under which the Justice Ministry in cooperation with the Foreign Ministry must draft laws and government decrees to bring the country's current legislation into line with the Estonian-Russian agreements signed in July.

The decree, which was signed Nov. 7, orders the Foreign Ministry together with the Justice Ministry to hold consultations with Russian authorities through diplomatic channels "to eliminate difficulties that may arise in implementing the accords."

The document, which bears former Prime Minister Mart Laar's signature, charges the Foreign Ministry to prepare the question of ratification of the agreements in parliament for discussion in the Cabinet. The decree makes no mention of deadlines by which the ministries should accomplish the tasks set to them.

Laar's government approved the Estonian-Russian agreements on troop withdrawal and on social protection for Russian military retirees and their family members Nov. 4, four days before it stepped down. The legal expertise of the accords hasn't as yet been made public.

Laar told reporters last week the troop withdrawal agreement was actually no longer valid, as Russian troops had already left Estonia, yet international agreements have to be ratified in parliament. The former prime minister also said he thought it "quite possible" that the government would have to amend some decrees and other legal acts after the ratification of the accord on social protection for Russian retired military and their family members.

"The drafts for those laws should be sent into the parliament together with the text of the agreement so the legislators, too, would be informed," he said.

The Justice Ministry submitted the expertise of the Estonian-Russian accords to the government on Oct. 28. The panel of experts included, among others, the well-known jurists Ilmar Rebane and Ando Leps. The group of experts led by former Justice Minister Urmas Arumae also discussed opinions sent in by emigre Estonian specialists.

Agreement To Boost Baltic Cooperation Endorsed

LD1011153194 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1100 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] This morning the Riigikogu ratified the agreement on cooperation between the Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian parliaments and governments. The prime ministers of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania signed it on 13 June in Tallinn and set up a new cooperation body at the time, the Baltic Council of Ministers. According to the cooperation agreement, the Baltic Assembly will act as the cooperation body between the Baltic parliaments and the Baltic Council of Ministers, as the body between the governments. The Assembly and the Council of Ministers will run annual joint sessions, to be called the Baltic Council.

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The cooperation agreement between the Baltic parliaments and governments will come into force once all parties to the agreement state that the legal procedures within the agreement that serve as endorsements have been carried out. So far, after much debate, the agreement has been ratified only by the Lithuanian parliament.

Parliament Rejects Amendment on Presidential Elections

WS1011134594 Tallinn BNS in English 1839 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tallinn, Nov 09, BNS—The Estonian legislature on Wednesday [9 November] rejected a constitution amendment which, if adopted, would have deprived the parliament of the right to elect the president.

The bill proposed by MP Toomas Alatalu stipulated that the president be elected by the country's population, with the proviso that a presidential candidate can be nominated if he or she has the backing of at least 10,000 people. According to the constitution, the nomination of a presidential candidate requires the support of one fifth of parliament members.

The bill was turned down with votes 25 for and 39 against.

Reform Party Founded in Tallinn

WS1411112894 Tallinn ETA in English 0815 GMT 14 Nov 94

[From 14 Nov HOMMIKULEHT, POSTIMEES, pp 1,3; "News Bulletin" No. 221/94]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] 120 persons, several prominent figures among them, connected with banking and business, formed a new Estonian Reform Party in Tallinn yesterday. Siim Kallas was elected the chairman of the party and was given full authority to hold talks with the Estonian Liberal-Democratic party over a possible merger.

Party's board, elected at the founding meeting, holds in addition to Kallas the chairwoman of Riigikogu [parliament] budget and taxation commission Valve Kirsipuu, Deputy Mayor of Tartu Toomas Savi, lawyer Vaino-Rein Villik, Ants Vaimel from Tallinn Technical University, Jurgen Ligi, the head of the EVEA bank branch in Saaremaa and two businessman Harri Lepik and Teet Helm.

Siim Kallas told in his report that the power joining the participants of the meeting was the belief in market economy and that this belief had steadily weakened in Estonia over the past months. Kallas pointed out the Liberals as sharing the views of the Reform Party and mentioned a possibility of an electoral union with Liberals named "Forum".

Kallas told in his interview to POSTIMEES that the need to form a new party was mostly a formal one, to enable to merge with the Liberals. The new party is definitely a right-wing one and its future allies in the election fight could be the National Coalition Party "Fatherland" and possible the Farmers' Party.

The programme of the Reform Party, approved at the yesterday's meeting, considers it necessary to create in the country a situation with a minimum need and chance for the state to intervene in the economy. The programme also stresses the importance of returning the property, expropriated in the Soviet era, to the legal owners, preferably avoiding unnecessary tension in the process.

MP's Valve Kirsipuu and the Chairman of the Council of Estonian Central Bank and former MP Kalev Kukk belong to the new party, but according to Kukk there have been talks over a possible joining with other Riigikogu members—Ignar Fjuk from the "Free Democrats" and the parliament's Liberal faction members Paul-Eerik Rummo, Tiit Kabin, Heiki Kranich and others.

According to POSTIMEES Siim Kallas and the Chairman of the Liberal-Democratic Party Paul-Eerik Rummo met last night to discuss the details of the possible merger of the Liberals and the new Reform Party. Kallas is to be the Chairman of the joint party and Rummo the Chairman of the party's council.

Latvia

World Bank To Loan Riga Over 30 Million U.S. Dollars

LD1011191294 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1800 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday the Latvian Ambassador to the United States, Ojars Kalnins, and the Vice-President of the World Bank for the European and Central Asian Region, Basil Kowalski, signed two loan agreements between the Republic of Latvia and the World Bank. The agreements provide that the World Bank will grant two loans to Latvia. One of them will be for 20,000,000 U.S. dollars, the other for 10,000,000 U.S. dollars and 8,500,000 Deutschmarks. These loans will be granted to support the reforms embarked upon by the Latvian Government in the business and financial sector, providing medium- and long-term credits for (?enterprises) being privatized, granting technical assistance in the privatization process, and participating in the creation of an infrastructure for the banking sector.

Former Head of Russian Naval Base Charged on Bribes

LD1011190494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1631 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Former commander of the Russian naval base in Liepaja (Latvia) Rear Admiral

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Valeriy Stalev was charged November 8 with receiving bribes in large sums, Mikhail Ioffe of the Baltic Fleet Military Prosecutor's Office told the Baltic News service on Thursday.

Stalev is now in custody. His arrest was sanctioned on October 29, 1994, by Military Prosecutor of the Baltic Fleet, Major General Nikolay Goncharenko.

According to Ioffe, the investigation bodies have proofs that Stalev received bribes, in money and gifts, for helping Latvian commercial structures to acquire the Fleet's decommissioned military property and ships.

According to the prosecutor, Stalev took part in selling ship screw propellers, scrapped non-ferrous metals and other items to Latvian firms .

Parliament Confirms Bills on Agreements With Russia

WS1111120794 Tallinn BNS in English 1328 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Riga, Nov 10, BNS—Latvian Saeima (parliament) confirmed Thursday [10 November] the bills in their second reading on Latvian-Russian accords on troop withdrawal from the Baltic state, signed on Apr. 30 in Moscow, and the interstate agreement on the procedure of migration and protection of the settlers' rights, signed in June of 1993.

As many as 74 deputies supported both the governments' agreement on protection of the settlers' rights, but 61 deputy supported the agreements on troop withdrawal.

The ratification of the agreements in their third reading will take place on Nov. 24.

Lithuania

Prime Minister Receives Letter From Canadian Counterpart

WS1011132594 Vilnius ELTA in English 1820 GMT 9 Nov 94

[From "News Bulletin" No. 626]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius, November 9, ELTA—Lithuanian Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius received a letter from Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien with comments on regional security and economical cooperation.

Chretien wrote that his State being a member of world economic organizations supported Lithuania's aspirations to join GATT and enter the International Trade Organization. Canadian Government welcomed withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltic States. Now it would like to strengthen security and economic prosperity in the region, stressed he in the letter.

Chretien wrote to Slezevicius that Canada backed Lithuania's attempts to solve military transit from Kaliningrad Region to Russia and vice versa by negotiations. So, the accepted decision can be based on a respect of Lithuania's sovereignty, a guarantee of its security and nature protection, as well as on satisfying interests of both countries.

Chretien stressed that, according to GATT principles, the agreement on military transit should not be related with any economical relations between the states.

Foreign Minister Departs for Council of Europe Meeting

WS1011130494 Tallinn BNS in English 1839 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius, Nov 09, BNS—Lithuanian Foreign Minister Povilas Gylys left for Strasbourg Wednesday [9 November] to participate in a meeting of the Council of Europe [CE] Committee of Ministers.

The committee will discuss admission of new members to the CE and how would the step affect the organization's work, as well as protection of national minority rights and a plan for struggle against racism, anti-Semitism and intolerantness.

The meeting will also be attended by the foreign ministers of Sweden, Poland, Hungary and Estonia.

Russians 'Satisfied' With Meeting on Unresolved Issues

LD1111210294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1834 GMT 11 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladas Burbulis]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius 11 Nov (TASS)—"Russia and Lithuania do not have global unsolved problems. They are maintaining friendly relations and do not have territorial claims to each other," Viktor Isakov, head of the Russian state delegation to negotiations with Lithuania and ambassador at large, told a news conference here today upon the completion of a meeting with his Lithuanian counterpart Virgilius Bulovas.

In the words of Isakov, he has come to Vilnius on his own initiative to "inquire about the reason for a delay in bilateral talks on military transit". He said this meeting is not a regular negotiations round but the striving of the sides to clarify the situation around the problem "which ungroundedly had a political coloring in Lithuania".

Isakov said he is satisfied with results of the meeting "which helped to clarify the stand of his partner and will boost the negotiations". Expert groups of the delegations will meet on November 17-18 in Moscow, he added.

In his turn, head of the Lithuanian delegation Bulovas said "this meeting should have been held long ago. The

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sides have gotten closer to a solution of problems of Russian military transit via Lithuania to the Kaliningrad region and back".

Landsbergis: Russia Trying To 'Legalize' Military Presence

WS1011132794 Vilnius ELTA in English 1820 GMT 9 Nov 94

[From "News Bulletin" No. 626]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius, November 9, ELTA—Opposition leader Vytautas Landsbergis at news conference on Wednesday [9 November] said that Russia aspired to legalize its military presence in the area of previous USSR, including Lithuania. The duty of Lithuanian administration is to withstand it and to resist against their intentions, he said.

Landsbergis reminded that Lithuania remained "the last piece of the former USSR possession where presence of Russian army was not certified and legalized." Russian military tries to stay in other republics of former USSR "for a very long time."

He draw attention to the facts that Russian troops, under different covers, tried to settle in Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Russian army tries to be legalized even in Estonia and Latvia.

Russian Parliament and executive administration continues to implement imperial policy, said Landsbergis. Strategic plans of Moscow include the idea to keep Baltic States not only within Russian influence zone, but also in economic and military dependence, stressed Landsbergis.

He said that the agreement to be signed with Russia on military transit via Lithuania, hence, causing legalization of military presence of Russians in Lithuania, was a crime against Lithuania's independence.

Security Increased at Ignalina Nuclear Power Station

LD1111140994 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1300 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Ignalina nuclear power station, as one of the vitally important objects of Lithuania's economy, has been carefully protected from the very first days of its operation, said Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius, replying to questions by the newspaper RESPUBLIKA on the safety of the Ignalina nuclear power plant.

He stressed at the same time that a terrorist act carried out in recent days on the railway section Vilnius-Kaunas and rumors about the threats to blow up the station have compelled the government to pay an increased attention to the protection of the Ignalina nuclear power station and adopt corresponding preventive measures. Together with the protection of the power industry objects in Lithuania, the protection of other complex constructions, the security of which is vital to the life of the society and the state, has been increased. We expect that the actions of the state institutions will be supported by the vigilance of the citizens, said Adolfas Slezevicius.

He stated once again that no real threat exists to the strategic objects in Lithuania and the public should not worry. The prime minister announced that the government is examining long-term programs for the utilization of the most modern technologies purchased abroad for the protection of the most important strategic objects in Lithuania.

Plant Threatened by Crime Families

LD1211154394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1450 GMT 12 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladas Burbulis]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius November 12 TASS—The Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant has become an object of blackmail from crime families which threatened that if their demands are not met, the station will be blasted on November 15.

Concern in this connection was expressed by the German Ministry for Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety which allegedly has information that prominent businessman Georgiy Dekanidze, a Vilnius resident, threatened to explode the Ignalina plant if his son Boris Dekanidze, ringleader of the "Vilnius brigade" criminal mob, is sentenced to a firing squad for masterminding the assassination of Lithuanian journalist Lingis.

Incidentally, the Lithuanian Supreme Court passed precisely this judgement on Thursday [10 November]. The German ministry passed on this information to Lithuanian authorities and the Ignalina station administration.

There was another threat of this kind: Lithuanian national Alitus Kiastutis Mazujka, resident of Alitus city, addressed the Swedish Government in Stockholm last week and demanded 1.1 million U.S. dollars on behalf of a certain terrorist organisation "Nuk-41 B" allegedly operating in the republic. Otherwise, the station will be blasted off.

Swedish security bodies arrested him, while the Lithuanian prosecutor-general's office instituted a criminal case against him. This threat was also reported to Lithuanian secret services.

The Lithuanian prime minister told the mass media on Saturday that "the terrorist act committed recently on the Vilnius-Kaunas railway and circulating rumours about a threat to the Ignalina station force the government to pay greater attention to the station's protection and to take appropriate preventive measures".

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The commander of the Lithuanian army, General Jonas Andriskiavicus, said on Friday that the number of troops guarding the station was trebled over the past two days.

In turn, station managing director Viktor Shevaldin said in an interview with ITAR-TASS today that "firstly, it is necessary to check whether the report from Germany is not a canard and, secondly, all security measures have been taken about which I cannot tell the press".

Talks Begin With Potential Oil Terminal Investors

WS1011130994 Tallinn BNS in English 1839 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius, Nov 09, BNS—Two-day talks between the Lithuanian Government and its potential partners in the construction of an oil terminal on the Lithuanian seashore are scheduled to begin in Vilnius Thursday [10 November].

The talks will be attended by representatives from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD], the London-based bank N. M. Rothschild and Sons Ltd., the U.S. company Fluor Daniel, the Mazeikiai oil refinery, the Russian-Italian company Lucoil-ENI-Agip, the Italian oil giant Agip, the Lithuanian Stock Innovation Bank, the Lithuanian Ministry of Energy, the Lithuanian-Russian company Lucoil-Baltija and a private lawyers company from Vilnius—all in all around 30 people.

Some of the above have earlier agreed to take part in the creation a international corporation that would finance the Lithuanian oil terminal project.

As reported, the Lithuanian Government decided to establish an international corporation for oil terminal construction, in which 51 percent of the shares would be owned by Lithuania.

The corporation is likely to be established already this year. The Lithuanian Government's consultants have recommended to distribute the shares in the following way: 49 percent to Mazeikiai, 25 percent to Lucoil, 18 to Agip and Fluor Daniel, 6 to the EBRD and 2 percent to a Lithuanian bank. But Lithuanian Energy Minister Algimantas Stasiukynas says there are no firm guarantees that all these companies will decide to invest. In his words, everything should become clear after the talks.

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